Responding to Health Risks along the value chain

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Health Risks

1.9 Million deaths – 64.2 million DALY lost annually
1.6 million deaths due to diarrhea in children <5 (WHO)

75 percent of emerging diseases and 61 percent of pathogens known to affect humans are zoonotic in origin

4.5 Billion people in developing countries chronically exposed to Aflatoxin (CDC)

Source: Tilman et al. (2001) Science
Factors driving an increase in health hazards

Urban population > Rural population
2009 (UN HABITAT)

10% of the world’s population consume foods produced with wastewater by irrigation (Smit & Nasr, 1992)

Increasing population and food demands  
Urbanization  
Water scarcity  
Changing income - changing diets
Health risks and the value chain

Inputs & Production

Storage, Transport, Handling

Processing
National alert over poison maize

By LUCAS BARASA

A major alert has been issued over the presence of 2.3 million bags of poisonous maize in the country. The government yesterday banned the transportation of the contaminated maize within and outside 29 affected districts.

President Kibaki chaired a high-powered ministerial team on food security at his Harambee House office before Agriculture Minister Sally Kosgey announced: "The government wishes to announce that we are facing a health threat as a result of there being high levels of aflatoxin contaminated maize in Eastern Province and parts of Coast Province," Dr Kosgey announced.

Aflatoxin is a fungus that affects

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Impacts greatest on the poor

Information  
Capacity and credibility  
Health services  
Costs of compliance
Opportunities?
Market access for High Value Products

Technology, collective action, resource providing contracts
CREDIBLE INFORMATION ON HEALTH RISKS

OVERSIGHT

Willingness to pay (consumer/self consumption)

Improve income

Improve health

Price premium for safe food

Increased income

Willingness to invest (Producer)

OVERSIGHT, STANDARDS TECHNOLOGY BENEFITS
Low value staples
Food safety is a crucial element of food security

- Incentives to produce safe food
  - Financial, political, social, technical
  - Incentives to improve production and food handling systems
  - Strengthen oversight
  - Risk based analysis and interventions
  - Engage stakeholders along entire value chain