

REPORT

**JOINT MEETING OF THE 16TH ANNUAL CARIBBEAN PLANT HEALTH
DIRECTORS FORUM
AND THE
2023 IPPC REGIONAL WORKSHOP FOR THE CARIBBEAN**

**ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA
14-18 SEPTEMBER 2022**

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List of Acronyms

AFD	French Agency for Development
AHFS	Agriculture Health and Food Safety Systems
AHP	Analytical Hierarchy Process
AIEA	
APP	Agriculture Policy Programme
CABI	Centre for Agriculture and Biosciences International
CAHFSA	Caribbean Agriculture Health and Food Safety Agency
CARDI	Caribbean Agricultural Research and Development Institute
CARICOM	Caribbean Community
CBATO	Caribbean Basin Agricultural Trade Office
CBIS	Caribbean Biosecurity Interceptions System
CFWG	Cross Functional Working Group
CGPC	Caribbean Group of Pesticide Control Boards
CISSIP	Caribbean Invasive Species Surveillance and Information Project
CISWG	Caribbean Invasive Species Working Group
COTED	Council for Trade and Economic Development
CPDN	Caribbean Pest Diagnostic Network
CPHD	Caribbean Plant Health Directors
CPM	Commission on Phytosanitary Measures
CRISIS	Caribbean Regional Invasive Species Intervention Strategy
DR	Dominican Republic
EDF	European Development Fund
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organisation
FAS	Food and Agricultural Services
FFMS	Farmers Forest Management Schools
FSMA	Food Safety and Modernisation Act
FOC TR4	Fusarium oxysporum f. sp. Cubense tropical race 4
FTD	Flies / Trap / Day
GAS	Giant African Snail
GCSI	Greater Caribbean Safeguarding Initiative
GICSV	Grupo Interamericano de Coordinacion en Sanidad Vegetal
HLB	Huanglongbing
IAEA	International Atomic Energy Agency
IAS	Invasive Alien Species
IICA	Inter-American Institute for Corporation on Agriculture
IPPC	International Plant Protection Convention
LMO	Living Modified Organism
MS	Member State

NAPPO	North American Plant Protection Organisation
NPPL	National Priority Pest List
NRO	National Reporting Obligations
NTB	Non-Tariff Barrier
OECS	Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States
OIRSA	Organismo Internacional Regional de Sanidad Agropecuaria
OPEP	Objective Prioritization of Exotic Pests
PAHO	Pan American Health Organisation
PERAL	Plant Epidemiology & Risk Analysis Library
PESTLE	Political Economic Social Technological Legal and Regulatory and Environment
PHD	Plant Health Director
P-IMA	Prioritisation of Investment Market Access
PPC	Palm Pest Complex
PRA	Pest Risk Analysis
PQPI	Plant Quarantine Produce Inspection Branch
PPQ	Plant Protection and Quarantine
RADA	Rural Agriculture Development Authority
RPM	Red Palm Mite
RPPL	Regional Priority Pest List
RPPO	Regional Plant Protection Organisation
RPW	Red Palm Weevil
SIT	Sterile Insect Technique
SKN	St Kitts & Nevis
SOP	Standard Operating Procedure
SPS	Sanitary and Phyto - Sanitary
STDF	Standard Test Data Format
SVG	St Vincent and the Grenadines
SWG	Small Working Group
TCP	Technical Cooperation Project
TFF	Tephritid Fruit Fly
TWG	Technical Working Group
UF IFAS	University of Florida – Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences
USDA APHIS	United States Department of Agriculture, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service
UWI	University of the West Indies

Meeting Proceedings

1.0 Opening Remarks

CPHD Chairperson, Mr. Brian Crichlow

In his opening remarks, the Chairman welcomed all participants to the 16th Meeting of the Caribbean Plant Health Directors (CPHD) and the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC) workshop. The chairman reflected on the meeting before covid and the challenges faced during the pandemic and praised the commitment and hard work of the CPHD, its members and partner organizations for the hard work and support in continuing the work of the CPHD during the pandemic.

For this, the first face to face meeting to be held in Antigua and Barbuda since COVID 19, the chairman further thanked its members and the USDA/APHIS, IICA and the Government of Antigua and Barbuda for their support and steadfast commitment displayed in the hosting of this the 16th CPHD meeting.

He indicated that the CPHD has grown and matured and was able to develop the 5-year strategic plan through the dedication, commitment and active participation of its members.

In closing the chairman urged participants to focus over the next few days on issues relevant to safeguarding the region and food and nutrition security.

Programme Manager, Agriculture, CARICOM, Mr. Shaughn Baugh

In his opening remarks he commented on CARICOM's leading efforts in food and nutrition security in the region and the 25 by 25 Action Plan prepared after COVID to address agricultural development. The development of the plan he said can be attributed to the work of the CPHD. He urged the participants to think of the purpose of the meeting and offered suggestions of – feeding our people, protecting the biodiversity and at the same time protecting the environment as areas of reflection and careful thought, before decision making, over the next 3 days.

The programme manager thanked the outgoing chair of the CPHD for his sterling contribution to the organization.

Assistant Director PPQ Preclearance Offshore USDA/APHIS Dr Shelah Morita

Dr. Morita in her opening remarks told the meeting that APHIS mission was to safeguard the region from pests and invasive species and was committed to developing pest mitigation strategies and proactive plans in a collaborative effort to mitigate pest issues. She indicated that this is a complex situation and that APHIS will continue to provide support to the region. However, she indicated that the effective leadership of members in their various capacities will help ensure protection of region from pest and disease.

IICA National Specialist, Mr. Craig Thomas

Mr. Thomas thanked the CPHD, CAHFSA and IPPC for the meeting. He also recognized the support of the GCSI and its efforts aimed at improving and strengthening plant health in the region and IICA and IPPC for funding the active participation of countries to improve food and nutrition security. He indicated that the thrust brought to the fore is the importance of safeguarding the region from pest and to boost agriculture production, marketing and trade in 4 areas:

1. Strengthening the agriculture framework
2. Promoting effective tools
3. Capacity building
4. Assisting Member States to participate in standard setting.

The IICA specialist urged participants to actively participate in the meeting.

CEO CAHFSA, Mr. Garvin Peters

Mr. Peters alluded to the remarks of the earlier speakers and asked the question “what can we do?” in relation to issues of plant health and environmental protection; and the must inclusion of one health;

He commented on plant health and its link to environmental protection as an essential for increased production, marketing and trade. He urged the participants to follow all the guidelines of the CPHD to ensure safe and wholesome food for consumption and reiterated in closing for the dilation of the meeting “what can we do?”

Secretary IPPC, DR Osama El-Lissy

In his remarks he stated that health and prosperity of plants is the foundation of life, and when plants thrive so does all life. He told the gathering that hunger is on the rise and that 40% of global production of crops is lost through pest and climate change. He said that the IPPC plays a crucial role in worldwide partnerships to prevent pest outbreaks in all regions of the world. He noted that as part of their activities the IPPC held meetings from March/May and measures were developed utilizing the efforts, resources and global skills to foster innovation and decisive action. The IPPC regional workshops he said, remain an invaluable platform for the safeguard of plant health and for impacting sustainable livelihoods.

Implementation Facilitation Officer, IPPC. Ms. Natsumi Yamanda

Ms Yamada thanked the invitation to the CPHD meeting and mentioned the recent IPPC activities including:

- Emergency responses to Fusarium TR4 outbreak, publishing “Prevention, preparedness and response guidelines for Fusarium Tropical Race 4 (TR4) of banana”
- Release of e-learning courses to replace face-to-face training

- Development of e-Commerce guide as one of the development agendas of the IPPC Strategic Framework

Feature Address, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Agriculture, Trade and Barbuda Affairs, Hon. Everly Paul Chet Greene

The Honorable Minister, in a virtual delivery, welcomed all participants to Antigua and Barbuda. He spoke on the observance of international year of plant health and the focus of Antigua and Barbuda on the theme plant health for environmental protection. He spoke of the ensuing three days and asked that the meeting expound on theme, generating more ideas relevant to the 25 by 25 effort to enhance agriculture production, marketing and trade in the region. This he said can only be achieved through improved plant health. The Minister spoke of plant pests and their devastating effects on trade and mentioned the incursions of the mealy bug, giant African snail, lethal yellowing to name a few and the need for protecting plant health.

The Honorable Minister pledged support to the work of the CPHD and the IPPC and said that Antigua and Barbuda will continue to play its part and will soon launch the Don't Pack a Pest Program.

In compliance, Antigua and Barbuda launched the trade council to streamline all trade functions.

The Minister asked that the meeting give consideration to the following: providing technical support to producers and farmers in relation to pest and disease; encouraging effective communication with farmers; the impact of climate change on production and the crafting of solutions to solve the related problems; and the development of technology that can be embraced by all.

The Minister in closing pledged support and high praise to Dr. Janil Gore Francis for her continued work in plant health.

2.0 CPHD-Meeting Arrangements and Procedural Matters

2.1 Adoption of the Agenda

2.2 Procedural Matters

3.0 CPHD Governance and Management Issues

3.1 CPHD Charter Updates, Brian Crichlow

The Chairman highlighted changes in the charter that included minor changes in the wording:

Article 1 Purpose to include: Contributing to the expansion of production and facilitation of safe trade of agricultural commodities; and

The CPHD shall form the Technical Committee of the Caribbean Regional Plant Protection Organisation (RPPO)

Article 2 Interpretation: to include “CAHFSA” means Caribbean Agriculture Health and Food Safety Agency

- “Caribbean RPPO” means the Regional Plant Protection Organisation for the Caribbean which is the Caribbean Agricultural Health and Food Safety Agency (CAHFSA)
- RPPO means the Regional Plant Protection Agency

Article 3 Objectives: to include:

- Fulfilling the functions as the Technical Committee of the Caribbean RPPO as set in the Caribbean Regional Plant Protection Organisation Operations Manual

Article 6: CPHD Forum Executives to include

- Forum to be expanded to include..... CAHFSA Plant Health Specialist and a representative of one of the partner organisations

Article 8: Roles and Responsibilities of the CPHD Forum Chair, VCo-Chair and Technical Secretary

- To include Functioning as a permanent member of the Executive Committee of the Caribbean Regional Plant Protection Organization (RPPO)

The Co-Chairman roles and responsibilities were uploaded when the charter was adopted in principle at the 12th CPHD meeting in the Bahamas.

The agenda and charter were adopted.

3.2 Report of the Independent Electoral Committee and Elections of New Executive – Process and Nominees, Mr. Trenton Roach

In opening the presenter indicated that nominations for respective positions as set out by the executive committee: Chair, Co-Chair and Technical Secretary were invited from the CPHD Member States as elections had not taken place for over three years. During the COVID pandemic the current executive was retained to ensure consistency in the operations of the CPHD.

The Member States submitted their nominations to an Independent Nomination Committee formed to oversee the election process. The nominees submitted to replace the current executive were as follows:

1. Chair, Dominica represented by Nelson Laville
2. Co-Chair, Antigua and Barbuda represented by Dr. Janil Gore Francis
3. Technical Secretary, Jamaica, Damian Rowe

The nominees were elected unanimously and will form the new CPHD executive at the end of the 16th CPHD meeting. The position time frames are as follows:

- ✚ Chair one year: 2023-2024
- ✚ Co- Chair two years: 2023-2025
- ✚ Technical Secretary two years: 2023-2025

4.0 Regional and International Safeguarding Decisions and Recommendations (Recap)

4.1 15th CPHD Meeting – Decisions and Recommendations, Brian Crichlow

Chairman indicated that the CPHD meeting was held virtually from 14th – 16th September 2022. Highlights of the meeting included:

- ✚ Technological Transformation to support an improved CBIS and Pest platforms
- ✚ Shared experiences on the use of ERPs and tabletop simulation exercises for various quarantine pests
- ✚ Special Technical Panel: *Tuta Absoluta* Exclusion Activities and Management Options for the Caribbean Region” with Panelist from OIRSA, Dominican Republic and Jamaica and moderated by CAHFSA

Recommendations

Five Year Strategic Plan

- ✚ CPHD membership was asked to note the development of the five-year Strategic Plan for circulation and feedback

CBIS Tool

- ✚ Agree on the full adoption of the CBIS by CPHD member States with a commitment to using the CBIS as the main mechanism to collect, store, review / retrieve and analysis issues on noncompliance including interceptions during trade
- ✚ Support for the CBIS Sharing Portal and the generalized information elements as an invaluable tool
- ✚ Train Member Countries in the use of CBIS and its benefits
- ✚ Put national structures/ systems in place to implement CBIS
- ✚ Seek additional funding to create an app for CBIS which will allow for offline usage in the field
- ✚ Request CAHFSA endorsement for the implementation of the CBIS within Member States
- ✚ Develop standard operating procedures for reporting Issues (NROs) that were found through the Survey Conducted under the CBIS

Pest surveillance Tool

- ✚ Adoption and use of the Pest Surveillance Tool to enhance record keeping, transparency and accountability for CPHD Member States

CIRAD-CaribGREEN Project

- ✚ Find synergies with existing CPHD – GCSI funded Projects to realize maximum implementation and outputs e.g., TR4 resistant variety trails
- ✚ Ensure CPHD full participation in the implementation of the activities listed under the various work programmes of the CaribGREEN Project – through a delegated approach of technically suitable CPHD members to work on each WP

Musa TWG

- ✚ CARDI and the UWI should be engaged to play a more active role moving forward the regional plant health research agenda to include TR4 exclusion
- ✚ CAHFSA should use its vantage point with CARICOM and OECS to advocate awareness with policy makers and funding agencies
- ✚ CARDI could engage with fellow research institutions such as BIOVERSITY, CIRAD, EARTH UNIVERSITY, toward introduction and validation of resistant clones of Musa in member countries
- ✚ Additional collaboration with FAO, CIRAD, CABI, IICA, CARDI, UWI to look at biosecurity measure for farms, border security, Farmer outreach.
- ✚ Through support of the GCSI, build the regional capacity on plant virology. Bunchy top virus (on the CPHD Priority Pest List as off 2022) is the next major threat to Musaceae and planting material is the most obvious pathway
- ✚ NPPO should embrace the technical support being provided by the GCSI project to strengthen their national response systems
- ✚ Using the FAO guideline on the evaluation of damage and loss we should endeavor to quantify the potential economic impact of TR4 on the Caribbean region and for other quarantine pest.
- ✚ Through CABI regional office and CAHFSA as the RPPO, explore possibilities of engaging CABI diagnostic Laboratories as reference laboratories.
- ✚ Find innovative ways to build capacity within the region to have plant health reference laboratories

CPDN

- ✚ CPHD Member countries are urged to make full use of the CPDN – which is a free, rapid (24hrs) confidential (private) digital diagnostics service, afforded to the region by the UF. If you need additional support in signing up and use – please contact the CPHD Secretariat
- ✚ CPHD member countries are asked to update CPDN Focal Points and Users if changes have occurred Please send updated focal points and users to the CPHD Secretariat by Oct 14th, 2022
- ✚ CPDN Focal Points are reminded of their responsibilities toward the CPDN with respect to its promotion, usage and coordination, periodic reporting and training

Fruit Fly TWG

- ✚ Consider the implementation of the training in fruit fly identification, detection systems, fruit fly management systems and data management for remaining countries in the Caribbean, if requested, for the time being preferably by zoom.
- ✚ Consider evaluation of trapping systems in the various countries, partly by evaluating the online database, to ascertain that they are functioning appropriately. Getting access is crucial to evaluate the trapping program of the region. Also, a monthly update on type of traps and number per country would be of importance to start up trade initiations.
- ✚ Consider the project aimed at better understanding the biology of the West Indian fruit fly, part of it is to research the host status in each of the countries
- ✚ Consider including fruit rearing data in the data management system to make reporting between the countries as comparable as possible, following instructions using ISPM standards.
- ✚ Consider the importance of sharing fruit fly trapping data within the region as a way to improve control strategies

Priority Pest Response Plans and Tabletop Simulation Guidelines

- ✚ Each country in the region should conduct a simulation exercise for Tuta absoluta. It allows the participants within the simulation to focus on goals and what is needed to achieve these goals

Update on GICSV Working Group Initiatives -ePhyto

- ✚ Continue to encourage member states to expedite access the ePhyto system as it is more effective and efficient system reducing dependence on paper and provides for improved process flows and recording keeping

4.2 COTED Decisions and Recommendations -2022-2023 Recap, Juliet Goldsmith, CAHFSA

The presenter noted that the recommendations to COTED for 2022-2023 were still being elaborated. The following were the CPHD decisions provided to COTED agriculture in relation to plant health:

Matters related to plant health and recommendations for the 12th CPHD

Sustainable funding for the IPPC regional workshop for the Caribbean

- **Urged** Member States to include some funding for the annual IPPC Regional Workshop for the Caribbean in their National Plant Health Budgets

Collaboration with the IAEA

- **Urged** the Member States to consider submitting regional and national projects

Matters related to plant health and recommendations for the 14th CPHD

Online data base and phytosanitary requirements

- **Urged** Member States to provide copies of all current phytosanitary import requirements to CAHFSA to be housed on their website and to routinely update CAHFSA when conditions change

Other 14th CPHD Recommendations

- **Urged** Member States to continue support to CPHD and to provide the necessary technical support to the to the forum
- **Encouraged** Member States to take advantage of the Caribbean Pest Diagnostic Network (CPDN) for rapid and reliable diagnostic service
- **Recommended** that Member States encourage their National Plant Protection Organizations (NPPO's) and Plant Quarantine Services to engage with the Caribbean Plant Health Directors (CPHD) in testing and developing the Caribbean Biosecurity Interception System (C-BIS) for eventual adoption across the Caribbean
- **Encouraged** Member States to support the Proclamation of the International Day of Plant Health to provide extra-budgetary contributions to enable promotional activities to support the celebration of the IYPH

Matters Related to Trade in Agriculture Products at the COTED 2022 Presented to Meeting:

- ✚ Approval of the draft alternative SPS settlement mechanism

- ✚ Approval of the 19 SPS commodity specific guidelines
- ✚ Approval of the draft CARICOM Regional AHFS Policy and National Framework

4.3 Report from the GICSV Coordinating Committee, Juliet Goldsmith

The presenter gave a brief update on the Inter-American Coordination Group on Plant Health (GICSV) for which the IICA is the technical secretary. The group is comprised of COSAVE, IICA, NPPOs, OIRSA, CAHFSA and COMINIDAD ANDINA is a collaborative agreement among the RPPOs of the Americas and the Caribbean. Update 2022-2023

1. The constitution MOU and by laws were updated at the meeting of 18/11/2022 incorporating CAHFSA. The updated constitution and by laws was signed by the RPPOs in March 2023
2. HLB and Tuta working groups fulfilled their objectives. However, members remain on stand-by should the need arise for their intervention. Two webinars will be held shortly to share on their activities and desirable outputs
3. Two new working groups were established namely Phytosanitary emergencies and biological control working groups
4. Two webinars were held last year: cleaning activities of maritime containers and their cargoes; and biocontrol and climate forecast in locust
5. Webinars 2022-2023 included the single window and its phytosanitary context and the new world phytosanitary treatments.

The GICSV agreed on the need to share information about events (workshops, talks, webinars and other events) etc. That take place in other regions.

The 2023-2025 work programme is being finalized and will be shared by CAHFSA of the CPHD

4.4 Update from the CPM Bureau (CPM 17 Report), Diego Quiroga, National Director, Plant Protection

Presenter gave a brief history of the IPPC from the end of the 19th century to 2022 to the new text of IPPC being established and adopted.

In 2012 the UN established 12th May as International Day of Plant Health. The IPPC developed and established the 2020-2030 Strategic Framework with a mission, vision and IPPC objectives. The core activities as stated are:

1. Standard setting
2. Implementation and capacity development
3. Communication and international cooperation
4. Trade facilitation and ePhyto solution tool

The IPPC is governed by the Commission on Phytosanitary Measures (CPM) Bureau and is comprised of the following committees: financial; standards; strategic planning; and implementation and capacity development committee.

5.0 Reports From Technical Working Groups (TWG) and New Initiatives

5.1 Update of the CPHD Technical Working Groups

5.11. The Safeguarding TWG Report, Karen Barrett Christie, Jamaica

After a brief introduction outlining the objectives and membership of the group, the meeting was updated with the achievements and the proposed work programme of the TWG.

Achievements to date:

- ✚ Guidelines developed for the inspection of cut flowers
- ✚ Guidelines developed for the establishment of inspection facilities at port facilities
- ✚ OECS/USDA prepared a manual to be used in the development of National Pest Lists to be used in the region
- ✚ Procedures developed for the importation of construction aggregate
- ✚ TWG participated in the development of Emergency Response for pests on the priority pest list (Tomato leaf miner; Citrus canker; Citrus leprosis virus; and *Ralstonia solanacearum*)
- ✚ TWG participated in table top exercise for *P. absoluta* (Tomato leaf miner) and *Ralstonia*
- ✚ Mentoring committee for PRA developed
- ✚ IPPC call for Topics: Proposal submitted for two pests on the Regional Priority Pest List *Mononychellus tanajoa* (Cassava mite) and Citrus leprosis. Both pests were added to pest list

Proposed Work Programme

The TWG completed all of the work under its earlier TOR. There is no new work programme as yet. However, the chair proposed new priorities to be considered in the formulation of the new work programme 2023-2024. These priorities include:

- ✚ Develop and implement a sustainable training programme geared towards the identification of Quarantine pest
- ✚ Implement a sustainable training programme geared towards the Conduct of Pest Risk Analyses
- ✚ Develop a prioritized list of ISPMs for adoption and implementation in the Region.
- ✚ Develop surveillance protocols for pest on the priority pest list
- ✚ Recommend and prepare documents for the development of Diagnostic Protocols for priority pest from the region
- ✚ Develop mechanism for countries to assist in the development of country and regulated pest list
- ✚ Develop inspection protocols for commodities to be use at ports of entry
- ✚ Identify regional resources and subject matter experts to provide assistance on quarantine issues.
- ✚ Make recommendations on a systems approach where for pest mitigate pests' mitigation

The Chair also recommended that the TWG be revamped and that the membership be linked to area of expertise.

Plenary

Grenada suggested that regulations be considered to support mentoring and legal system.

5.1.2 The Caribbean Pest Diagnostics Network (CPDN), Deanne Ramroop, Trinidad and Tobago

The presenter described the CPDN network as an internet-based Lab Information Management System, which facilitates the digital upload of samples obtained in the field for rapid diagnosis and pest identification. Diagnoses are made online through interactions between extension officers and plant protection experts. The problems presented via the digital samples are quickly assessed and the results/solutions communicated by the University of Florida (UFL).

Key achievements of the CPDN include:

- ✚ Signing of the MOU with the University of Florida in 2022
- ✚ The removal of the \$2000.00 annual fee per country from June 2022 to 2024
- ✚ Launched a revised and simplified CPDN website, which is being upgraded periodically
- ✚ Expansion of the CPDN to 32 member states with free access to rapid diagnostics (within 24 hours)
- ✚ Development of additional e-learning modules for the system

Critical role of the CPHD includes reliable pest reporting, non-compliance e-reporting record keeping and traceability and meeting the obligations under SPS and other trade facilitation agreements.

Other achievements for the period 2022-2023 include:

- ✚ Awareness sessions in all Member States demonstrating the CPDN
- ✚ Initiation of a scientific paper in collaboration with UF/CPHD/APHIS IS/CPDN
- ✚ Mobilization/sensitization activity held in Trinidad and Tobago in April 2023
- ✚ Evaluation of the use of the CPDN by samples submitted by countries over time. It was observed that 64 digital samples have been identified through the website. Trinidad and Tobago submitted the most samples followed by Aruba and Antigua and Barbuda.

Workplan 2023-2024

As part of the CPDN Workplan for 2023/2024, there will be continued efforts to increase the effective usage of the CPDN by CPHD Member Countries for rapid diagnostics. Planned activities include: expansion of the pool of CPDN focal points in CPHD Member States to include divisions/districts/counties under the NPPO (Discovery Based learning/Simulations); Training and mentorship; Awareness and Sensitization; Data Collection; publication of a scientific paper; comprehensive Diagnostic Services list and mentorship programme among countries (to build capacity and increase usage). The CPDN also provides diagnostic support to the Caribbean Biosecurity Interceptions System (CBIS) – a database for interceptions at ports of entry.

Recommendations

- ✚ Member States urged to use the CPDN
- ✚ If required Member States should contact CPHD for additional support in signing up and use of the CPDN
- ✚ Member States are asked to update focal points and to inform the CPHD Secretariat of the update

Plenary

CARICOM: project spearheaded by IICA should be included on website

CARICOM: after the MOU ending in 2024 what is the next step for CPDN? Why are countries not using the network?

Response: as part of the discussion with the UF, there must be there must be increased usage to justify further extension. If countries are not using, the sustainability will be questioned by the UF. Countries are present at the meeting and should indicate why the limited usage of the network.

CAHFSA: suggestion to explore the use of regional capacities, universities etc. for long term sustainability of programme.

5.1.3 The Regional Priority Pest List Committee, Naitram Ramnanan, CABI

The presenter listed the team of experts who worked on the priority list. He described the process where the abovementioned experts examined the prioritized list of quarantine pests from (9) nine CARICOM Members states that completed the compilation of their respective national pest lists of quarantine importance and the experts looked at various species within their respective disciplines that are present in the region's major trading partners mainly in North, South and Central America in addition to Asia, Africa and the Pacific region. This process generated a list of over 100 crop pest and diseases that are either not present in the region or present in limited distribution. Each discipline employed the Objective Prioritization of Exotic Pest (OPEP) model and developed a list of 30 high impact regional quarantine pests.

From the list of 30 – the experts selected by consensus – the top (10) ten pest that are either not present or if present in limited distribution and being officially controlled that would have highest probability of impact. The Analytical Hierarchical Model was employed to examine parameters such as invasiveness; economic, social and environmental impact for on the 10 pests identified. This intensive and rigorous process resulted in the red ring nematode that affect mainly coconut palms and present in a few countries as the number one priority crop pest for the region. This was followed by *Fusarium oxysporum fsp cubens* TR4; *Ceratitidis capitata/roosa* (Medfly); Rice panicle mite; *Helicoverpa armigera* (Old World Bollworm), *Ralstonia solanacearum* Race 3 Biovar 2 (Brown rot of potato), Banana bunchy top virus, Maize lethal necrosis disease, *Rhynchophorus ferrugineus* (Red Palm Weevil), and *Peronosclerospora philippinensis* (Downy Mildew)

Work Programme 2023

The work programme 2023 comprises the following objectives and actions:

Objective One: Publicize the work of the TWG in collaboration with other TWGs of the CPHD.

Actions:

1. Paper Publication- *Prioritization of Quarantine Pest List for the Greater Caribbean Using a Multi Criteria Decision Approach*. (Submitted to NEOBIOOTA journal, ensure publication in 2023)
2. Prepare briefs on at least two key pests from the RPPL for circulation in the Caribbean.
3. Support the Safeguarding TWG, the PRA Mentoring Committee to conduct surveillance for the key pest on the PPL in collaboration with NPPOs.
4. Collaboration with other TWGs to predict cost to the region of the entry of any pest or disease on the PPL, by conducting Cost and Benefit Analysis. (TR4 recommended for 2023)

5. Establish linkages with key experts and training institutions to build capacity in the region to prevent the entry of the pests into the region, and the control and management should it enter the region. Therefore, Sustainable Training Programmes for specific pests and diseases in the 2022 RPPL. (TR4 can be the priority for 2023)

Objective Two: Refine the method and process of the TWG in determining the Regional Priority Pest List biennially.

Actions:

1. Constant Model Assessment and research to improve the Priority Pest Work (e.g. reduce bias, other model options etc.)
2. Review 2022 RPPL prioritization exercise. Update Weed Assessment Model.
3. Review TWG Membership (composition of experts) and Chairmanship from a CPHD Executive level.

Plenary

Saint Lucia: noted red ring on top of the list and the vector Palm weevil lower in list.

Response: various experts prepared list. Nematologists thought that red ring was important having been on list prior to now. If you going to include red ring must include vector.

IT Expert, Avenish, warned that artificial intelligence should be used cautiously. Must be careful when feeding confidential data so that information laws are not breached.

5.1.4 Emergency Response and Preparedness, Janil Gore Francis, Antigua and Barbuda

The presenter reported on the scope and operations of the TWG, the round robin virtual meeting in March 2023 and the proposed areas of focus.

Scope and Operations

The TWG was established with a mandate to address issues to effect safeguarding of the Greater Caribbean from threats and/or the impacts from the introduction, establishment, and spread of plant pests through emergency preparedness, response and recovery and through mechanisms designed to implement pest management and mitigation plans.

The new TOR needs to be officially reviewed and refined with regards to its safeguarding role and function in keeping with regional initiatives.

Round robin Virtual Meeting 2023

Through this virtual meeting, the TWG recommended the following activities to be considered for incorporation into the working group's short and medium-term work plan going forward:-

1. Develop Emergency Response Plans (ERPs) for new pests that have recently been incorporated into the Regional Priority Pest List.
2. Encourage and support the continued conduct of ERP Tabletop Simulations by all CPHD Member countries.
3. Encourage Member countries to (i) utilise the CPDN for rapid pest identification, particularly when RPPL-affiliated phytosanitary emergencies arise, and (ii) adopt the 14 CAHFSAs plant commodity guidelines to facilitate intra-regional trade.
4. Develop (or assist in the development of) technical content for:
 - a. Brochures and ERPs for new RPPs;
 - b. A poster for a selected “Dirty Dozen” RPPs;
 - c. A guideline for disinfection and disinfestation of shipping containers (in the absence of methyl bromide).
5. Horizon scanning for Regional Priority Pest List (RPPL) candidates, including consideration of (i) the inclusion of the khapra beetle, *Trogoderma granarium*, and (ii) the implications for pest entry affiliated with emerging markets (e.g., Kenya, Ghana, Nigeria).
6. Assess the status of plant quarantine facilities at the Ports of Entry across the region and develop biosecurity guidelines for such facilities.

Proposed Areas of Focus

These include:

- ✚ Champion the establishment of a Phyto emergency fund in each Member State
- ✚ Prioritize work on RPPL within the context of the 14 commodities identified for facilitation through intra-regional trade
- ✚ Participate in the FAO process for movement of disaster relief goods
- ✚ Identify diagnostic tools for use at port of entry
- ✚ Identify cultivars tolerant and resistant to pests
- ✚ Development treatment programmes

The Meeting was invited to

- (i) **Approve** the activities listed above for development of the TWG-ERPPMR’s short- to medium-term work plan.
- (ii) **Support** the alignment of the CPHD Forum’s work plan with relevant regional and international initiatives (e.g., CARICOM’s 25% by 2025 through intra-regional trade facilitation using the 14 CAHFSAs commodity and other relevant guidelines, and the applicable Sustainable Development Goals [SDGs]

Plenary

Dominica: partner agency already has guidelines (ORISA) for disinfection and disinfestation. May need to review manual.

CARICOM: region had plan in 2021. Could review plan for use and development of manual. With regards to biosafety and biosecurity, policy and draft bill exist. The countries are not responding. Countries are urged to provide comments.

5.1.5 Fruit Fly Technical Working Group, Allies Muller, Suriname

The chair in opening informed the meeting and new participants that there is a history of the FF TWG in the working document.

She commenced her technical presentation with the announcement that the next FF meeting will be held in Jamaica from 26 to 31 May 2024. The meeting aims to promote the exchange of knowledge and experiences between scientists and personnel in charge of executing programs for surveillance and control of fruit flies in the Western Hemisphere. In this way, research needs and results are shared and the dissemination of new technologies is promoted. Among the disciplines expected to be addressed are investigations in biology, population chemical ecology, ethology, genetics, taxonomy, morphology, monitoring systems, control methods and pre and post-harvest mitigation and area wide management.

More information will be available later, and will be posted on the CPHD webpage.

Activities

Trapping Material

Again this year, trapping material was distributed to several Caribbean countries to help with ongoing trapping activities. The countries are St. Lucia, Jamaica, Grenada, Barbados, Antigua, Dominica and Suriname

Euphresco

This project in which CAHFSa participates attempts to make an inventory of the (un) published fast and reliable molecular procedures for identifying Tephritidae species. The project commenced on 1st June 2022 with a duration of 24 months.

Training Activities

This year several teams were trained but only virtually

Turks and Caicos: an on-line fruit fly training, including trapping, fruit collection, fly identification, and the use of the FFMS database was held for 4 participants from Turks and Caicos from April 3-6, 2023. The training was given during 3 hours of the morning (in Turks and Caicos), by Avenesh Ali and Alies van Sauers.

In the last week of April, experts from the UK gave a training to various participants from overseas territories. The training was held in Montserrat. Based on nomination of Brian Crichlow, the fruit fly training, including identification, trapping, fruit collection, FFMS, was given by Alies van Sauers.

From May 8-11, 2023 participants from Jamaica and Trinidad also received an online course in fruit fly trapping, fruit collection, identification, and the use of the FFMS database.

The University of Florida has an online course for fruit fly identification, consisting of a number of videos. The course can be followed at one's own speed, and it is possible to revisit a video if needed. Allows you to learn on line how to identify fruit flies, larvae as well as adults, various genera

Lure Testing

A trial for medfly lures from an older stock in Turks and Caicos was performed in Aruba. Five Trimedlure plugs were placed in traps in various trees. Most caught medflies, the highest F/T/D was 10. The conclusion was that the lures are still working and can be used in the detection trapping on the islands. The methyl eugenol will be tested in Suriname.

Proposed Priority Areas 2023- 2024

- Work with the CPHD Web Developer to integrate on the CPHD members Website supporting improvements and country training in the use of the FFMS
- Improve and implement host rearing programs in the region, suggested to have zoom meetings with various countries.
- Restart training sessions with several countries

Plenary

CARICOM: noted the particular low usage of the website and asked the meeting, whether the use of the website should be made mandatory for Member States, producing quarterly reports on usage. Could this be a recommendation he asked.

Response: this recommendation was already taken to COTED and approved by Ministers.

CARICOM: a more forceful follow up is required as there is renewed interest in agriculture in the region with a special task force established.

CAHFSA: time has come for some to fall back on reporting obligations. This obligation to report must be adhered to. A mandate should come from the Secretariat of COTED to encourage Member States to use the database for reporting.

Jamaica: there is need to look at country resources with regards to using the database and reporting. Must be assessed carefully before resorting to mandate.

5.2 Update on GICSV Working Group Activities by CAHFSA Regional Representatives

5.2.5 Fruit Flies, Alies Muller

Two meetings of the working group were planned. The meeting of October 5th 2022 was held and the other planned for February 14th 2023 was postponed after the change of coordination from NAPPO to ORISA.

A presentation about the outbreak and eradication of *Bactrocera* in Mexico was held. The *Bactrocera* programme is a preventive and detection system for exotic fruit flies. The presentation can be found on the GISCV webpage (see link on CPHD webpage).

Another presentation was the outbreak and eradication of medfly in the Dominican Republic. A next presentation will be on the DRAFT ANNEX to ISPM 37: Criteria for evaluation of available information for determining fruit host status for fruit flies. An expert was sought and found to explain this draft annex to the working group.

Proposed Priority Areas for 2023-2024

- ✚ Establish on the website the work on emergency protocols for exotic fruit flies for use by members
- ✚ Improvement in the use of resources of different databases

5.2.6 Locust Nadia Singh, Trinidad and Tobago

Indicated that locust is a migratory pest and can travel 100 Km per day. There are 4 species identified as important pest.

TWG Main Activities

- ✚ Analyse and report on locusts in the region
- ✚ Build technical capacity
- ✚ Documentation and media releases

2023 Activities

- ✚ GISCU declaration for lack of authorized phyto products for locust control. Survey results indicate a lack of active ingredients and phyto products authorized for locust control
- ✚ 14th international congress of orthoptera in Mexico in October 2023
- ✚ Symposium on management and implementation of regional and national programmes

Trinidad and Tobago Management Strategy for Locust

- ✚ Integrated pest management programme
- ✚ Biological control strategy

5.2.1 HLB, Hannah Dupal Romain

Presenter outlined the objectives of the working group and proceeded to give the following updates and achievements.

Updates on GISCV HLB Activities

- ✚ Production of video on HLB prevention and management
- ✚ Capacity building of laboratories for HLB diagnosis and for other citrus pests of economic and quarantine importance

- ✚ Initiatives in Jamaica to encourage irrigation on citrus fields has shown improvements on yields where there was a 40% decline in production as a result of the vector being present in 2001 and the disease in 2009. Initiatives for replanting is being slowly implemented
- ✚ In Belize the disease is present. Pre disease incursion export volumes registered 7-8 million boxes. Post incursion ½ million boxes. Recovery efforts are not working, farmers are reluctant to reinvest in the citrus industry despite government subsidized support. Coconut and pineapple are emerging as replacement crops for export.
- ✚ In Trinidad and Tobago both the vector and disease are present. All government nurseries were destroyed with the onset of the disease. Other activities included the importation of seed and rootstock from California being propagated under protective cover and constantly monitored.
- ✚ In St. Lucia both the vector and disease are present. Unfortunately, the propagation nursery operated by the Ministry of Agriculture is affected by the disease. IICA has undertaken a small initiative to assist farmers in the field. Recent CIRAD survey concluded that the farms at higher elevations have high incidence of the disease.
- ✚ In Anguilla both vector and disease are present. Citrus production has declined in country.
- ✚ In Antigua and Barbuda both vector and disease are present. Presently no active surveillance and management programmes have been undertaken.
- ✚ Both the vector and disease are present in Barbados. Country is building protective structures to begin propagation as part of the implementation of recommendations submitted under the FAO regional project.
- ✚ In Grenada where both the disease and vector are present, preparations are ongoing for the re-establishment of citrus propagation under protected structures.
Status of vector and disease is the same as Grenada. The management activities include biological control using multiple entomopathogens, Introduction of certified planting material, certification system for Propagation and planting material and propagation under protected structures.
- ✚ In Suriname, Guyana and the Bahamas, there has been no confirmation of disease. However, surveillance and public information activities are ongoing.

Recommendations

- ✚ Strengthen efforts to assist countries to source clean material
- ✚ Provide assistance to countries that are unable to identify vector and disease
- ✚ Increase assistance to countries with challenges in conducting surveillance activities
- ✚ Prioritize management of the vector and disease to ensure available funds are used to their full potential

Plenary

Aruba: Are there different species that transmit the disease?

Response: there are 2 species of same genus. Both can transmit the disease.

CABI: Brazil has good integrated programme for the control of HLB. How do we get countries to get together to access technology?

Response: working together as a region.

5.2.3 TR4 Nelson Laville, Dominica

The main objective of the TR4 working group is to promote regional actions to prevent the entry and spread of TR4 within the hemisphere. The working group is coordinated by ORISA.

Updates.

- ✚ Last meeting held in August 2022
- ✚ ORISA conducted two activities related to TR4. One aimed at the propagation of resistant materials and the other at the use of drones in phytosanitary surveillance
- ✚ ORISA is preparing an activity to build capacity in lab diagnosis to be held in Mexico
- ✚ FAO supported ORISA in November 2022 to execute a national and regional drill on actions to be carried out in the event of a TR4 outbreak
- ✚ In October 2022, the Dominican Republic with support of the IDB held a workshop to standardize phytosanitary surveillance systems
- ✚ From October 2022 to January 2023, with support of the GCSI funds, countries completed national responses to TR4
- ✚ Venezuela received capacity building and technical support from CAN and ORISA
- ✚ Current distribution of TR4: Colombia; Peru; and Venezuela
- ✚ Next meeting tentatively proposed for September 2023

The TWG is in the process of preparing a policy brief and would like to capture from all countries information on acreages of *Musa* sp., exports, and for importing countries the volume of imports.

5.2.4 ePhyto Global Update, Damian Rowe

Main work areas of group

- ✚ Resource needs for ePhyto electronic certification
- ✚ Support capacity building for the region to successfully implement ePhyto
- ✚ Development of a Contingency Plan to facilitate continuity when ePhyto is down
- ✚ Established a ePhyto Road Map to support implementation of ePhyto in countries. Done by Jamaica and the USA. Survey questionnaire was sent to Latin America and the Caribbean to determine gaps
- ✚ CAHFSA: 14 Member countries started process of implementation. So far 7 countries are actively trading. Others are in training or just registered
- ✚ CAN: Peru, Brazil, Chile, Bolivia, Argentina, Ecuador, and Paraguay are currently trading ePhytos
- ✚ CASAVE: currently using system. Region is working to fully connect and to also implement eSignature for the EU markets
- ✚ NAPPO: USA and Mexico continue to exchange, however Canada is working on their system
- ✚ OIRSA: Mexico, Costa Rica, Panama, Guatemala and Dominican Republic are active

The presenter noted the sensitivity of the ePhyto system and the transaction costs required for maintaining the programme. It is required of Member States to provide funding. Discussions are ongoing and countries may be asked to contribute.

- ✚ IICA eCertification workshop: after the regional decision on importance of eCert/eVet, a workshop was held in Costa Rica to look at the eCert or eVet phyto for animal and animal

products. the next phase is to establish a pathway for a unified data model and mechanism to exchange certificates.

6.2 Critical Review of CPHD TWG Structures and Membership, Brian Crichlow

In conducting this review, the Chair stated that a number of areas have been identified in relation to the situational analysis.

All the TWGs were presented outlining their structure, membership, tangible achievements, practices, cross-cutting nature, focus and status etc.

Situational analysis

In the past, the TWG was developed in response to a plant health or issue or event. Membership was not selected based on a clear technical criteria or membership profile; countries were added to working groups based on a perceived risk, a national program, pest presence etc. This “*selection*” process led to inefficiencies in the TWGs.

Due to limited financial and human resources many of the TWGs in the region have the same members, managing multiple responsibilities (multi-tasking), while absenteeism among the highly trained personnel continues to impact the Ministries and the TWGs.

New Approach

The approach as presented to make the TWGs fit for purpose should have:

- ✚ Alignment with the International Strategic Goals
- ✚ Alignment with the Regional and Hemispheric Strategic Goals
- ✚ Alignment with the CPHD 5-year Strategic Plan
- ✚ Alignment with National Priorities
- ✚ Strengthened CPHD’s Role to the RPPO

Membership should be based on relevant expertise of members. The new approach should comprise a mix of a permanent TWG with small flexible sub committees with a single project objective. The TWG should be created, renewed or dissolved based on priorities, relevance, accomplishments etc.

The new approach should adopt a participatory bottom up and top-down approach, sharing information and priority activities at all levels. This will define areas of capacity building, needs, adoption of standards, strategic pillars, relevant ISPMs and diagnostics protocols etc. Groups may be standing or flexible.

Upon the CPHDs agreement of the new structure and approach, the TWGs will:

- ✚ Update or develop new Terms of Reference
- ✚ Develop a Member Profile
- ✚ Send out a call for Nominees

Day 2

7.0 Regional and International Trade, Agriculture, Health and Food Safety Issues

7.1 Trade Agriculture, Health and Food Safety

7.1.1 updates on the 25% by 2025 Reduction in the Regional Food Import Bill Initiative

Current Food and Nutrition Status

In giving context to the initiative, he referred to the current food and nutrition food security status of the region and indicated the following:

- ✚ All CARICOM countries with the exception of Belize and Guyana, are net food importers
- ✚ At least 7 of these countries import more than 80% of the food they consume
- ✚ The Region's annual food import bill is estimated at US\$ 6 billion
- ✚ The Region is highly dependent on imports of basic everyday food items (wheat, fresh produce, dairy meats, animal feeds and a range of processed foods)
- ✚ An estimated 4 million people out of 7.1 million (57%) in the English-speaking Caribbean are food insecure
- ✚ Food inflation in the English and Dutch-speaking Caribbean has risen by 10.2% across 20 countries as of March 2022.

It is against this background that that a special task force headed by Guyana was aerated to drive this task force. It provides guidance on the transformation of the agri-food system to one that's resilient, provides attractive and sustainable wealth creation and creating opportunities for potential investors and importantly, guarantees food and nutrition security for member states.

The focus areas include:

- ✚ Removing barriers to movement being faced by sector to improve trade in the Americas
- ✚ Securing greater private sector participation and involvement as engine of growth
- ✚ Alternate finance and effective insurance for the sector
- ✚ Improvement of transportation services and investment
- ✚ Cross border investment to ensure optimal production in Member States while sustaining biodiversity
- ✚ Digitization of agriculture for better efficiency

Positive Movements since Launch

- ✚ 11.9% growth of the Guyana agriculture sector; Guyana soyabean production expanded by 1000 acres
- ✚ 17% growth of agriculture sector in Jamaica

There is increased investment in in infrastructure and expenditure in Guyana, St. Lucia, Barbados, Jamaica, St. Vincent and the Grenadines and Montserrat.

- ✚ Removal of tariff barriers. 4 pillars
 - CARICOM trade policy for animal and animal products
 - The Regional Agriculture Health and Food Safety Policy
 - Alternate SPS dispute resolution mechanism
 - 19 guidelines for trade in animal and animal products and plant commodities
 - Approval of the Regional Pesticide Draft Model Bill

Priorities

- ✚ Agriculture insurance and financing
- ✚ Policy implementation
- ✚ Trade and eAgriculture
- ✚ Resource mobilization and technical support

Plenary

IICA: we are now half way within the time frame. Where are we in relation to 25% by 2025

Response: it is a head of Government mandate. There is progress. Agriculture ministries have improved. We should support other Member States to improve. Challenges remain with data collection and other issues. Where data is available quite a bit is happening.

7.1.2 New EU Food Rules Impacting Low and middle Economies

Morag Webb (COLEDAD)

Presenter stated that COLEDAD was a new programme replacing the earlier COLEACP programme. It focuses specifically on trade with the EU. and in particular, the new regulatory environment. There is significant change in regulation, policies and standards. The COLEDAD implements a number of development programs addressing agriculture and the food sector and is funded by a number of different donors but the EU is the most important one.

He said that this is a time of very significant change in Europe where regulations, policies and standards are overhauled under the European green deal which is a major policy initiative to make Europe more sustainable and to be carbon neutral by 2050. The green deal cuts across all aspects of the work of the Commission.

A major element of this is a farm to fork strategy that addresses sanitary and phytosanitary issues. These rules include plant health, heavy metals, aflatoxins, mineral oils, food additives, nutrition labelling, pesticide residues. There are over 50 new rules per year. These regulations have important implications for countries exporting agrifood products to the European Union.

The EU green deal goes beyond those regulations and looks at sustainability, addressing how foods are produced, the treatment of suppliers and the human rights aspect and importantly the environmental impact (including no deforestation) of production. These are far reaching regulations that require major transformation of all sectors in order to maintain access and entry into the EU market.

Opportunities and Challenges

The opportunities for countries exporting to Europe are really about transitioning away from industrial farming in the EU and is quite likely to have an impact on productivity and potentially an increasing demand for imports of some products into the EU. There are challenges however, the many new policy initiatives and new regulations making it an increasingly demanding trading environment for countries exporting to the EU not only in SPS but in these wider sustainability areas.

Plenary

Jamaica: stated emphatically that we should pay close attention to the EU regulations, as some rules are more stringent than CODEX. Also suggested that it is time for a webinar on the new EU regulations

7.1.3 The STDF: Opportunities for SPS Capacity Building and Technical Cooperation

Melvin Spreij

The objective of the STDF global partnership is to really to improve SPS capacity building in developing countries by improving food safety and the animal and plant health situation in countries and also to help countries meet the SPS requirements of trading partners based on international standards.

The STDF is comprised of 5 core partners namely the FAO, the OAS the World Bank, the World Health Organization and the WTO, which houses the STDF. Juliet Goldsmith is a selected country expert on the STDF. There's a working group that meets twice per year with a focus on knowledge in relation to SPS capacity building and funding for SPS projects. The STDF has funded 250 SPS projects some of which are cross cutting:

- ✚ Building SPS public private sector partnerships and not barriers to trade
- ✚ Providing resources to improve cross border infrastructure
- ✚ Electronic SPS and animal certification
- ✚ Gender/climate change/and environmental impact

Funding Opportunities

1. Project preparation grants up to \$50,000
2. Projects up to USD 1 million with a duration of 3 years:
 - In kind contribution of eligible LDC countries 10%
 - For regional projects contribution is 20%

The meeting was asked to consider priorities for funding for the region

Opportunities exist to apply for STDF funding from the secretariat in Geneva. However, Juliet Goldsmith can also be consulted on opportunities. The deadline for applications is 15th January 2024.

Plenary

CABI: would STDF fund collapsible pallets for the movement of fresh produce across Barbados and the OECS?

Response: critical issue. In general STDF will not fund but owners can look for other investment opportunities

CAHFSA: encouraged meeting to use information on the STDF website where abounds. There is a tool on website which, helps in prioritizing.

CAHFSA: Is the value of projects to the region still USD 1 million

Response: value is up to 1 million. Amount put in is really 700,000 to 750,000. The 20% in kind contribution provides the balance. There are also other organization that co-fund projects.

8.0 Plant Health Directors Forum Led Initiatives

8.1 Update on CPHD Communications, Outreach and Databases

8.1.1 Overview of CPHD – CBIS and PeST Tools, Avenish Ali

At the outset the presenter acknowledged the contributions of the USDA/APHIS, CPHD, CABI, IICA, Cayman Islands, Jamaica and Fitzroy White the consultant.

The CBIS was adopted at the 14th CPHD in 2021. It provides timely reports on identifying recurring issues of interceptions of ports of entry. It also reduces workload for staff and it facilitates easier accessibility for all registered users. It is an enterprise level web based and offers a more efficient way of recording and managing interceptions at both air and sea ports and is accessible to everyone within country.

Updates

- ✚ Improved CBIS to capture ISPM 13
- ✚ Piloted sharing portal in two countries
- ✚ Rolled to 17 countries in March 2023 with 38 participants
- ✚ User legislation accounts set up
- ✚ 5 countries currently have data on CBIS
- ✚ Invited to roll out CBIS for data collection in CABI project for the OECS countries and Barbados
- ✚ Donating the CBIS app software to be used by all CPHD member countries at no cost
- ✚ CABI donated 8 devices to the region. They will be piloted in 8 countries
- ✚ Release of the final version is carded for February of 2024

The system aggregates data and displays in a meaningful way to the region. It shows all interceptions on ground. Aphids and thrips account for 50% of all interceptions.

Plenary

Jamaica: is tutorial available?

Response: will be released soon

PeSt Pilot

Surveillance tool developed in 2012. Piloted in St. Kitts/Nevis. Tool was developed to handle the problems of keeping and storing pest surveillance records on paper and from different locations. It is an online enterprise web-based system. There are similar systems around the world. It was initially designed for Tuta, Canker and Ralstonia. It is now developed for all pests. System serves as an early warning system and the roll out is scheduled for September 2023. Should be complete for all countries in January 2024.

8.1.2 Update CPHD FFMS Website

Website has been in operation for 9 years. It was built in 2014. Over the years the system has been updated and enhanced with new technologies. The FFMS clustering open share platform developed 2 years ago was added by St Lucia recently with Cayman Islands, Nevis, Jamaica and Suriname. The open share platform shows all traps and locations for all countries but not species.

The CPHD website is soon to be upgraded to a high-end terabyte server. It is currently growing very fast because of the CBIS. Member States are urged to register for an open share platform.

8.1.3 Capacity Building Data Base Concept for the Region

It is a concept that is still being developed. It dates as far back as 2009 CTA workshop on new updates and sharing knowledge in agriculture market information systems.

The concept is being developed to house all training programs and details of persons trained and areas of training in region. After numerous discussions with the USDA/APHIS the capacity building data base was born. Data base should be open to all agencies in the region

6.1 CPHDs 5 Year Operational Plan and 2023 Work Plan

Under GCSI main task the CPHD was awarded funding for the development of a strategic plant health agenda for the Caribbean Region 2023-2028'

A consultant was hired to gather information on the management structure and function operational framework, technical activities and achievements of the forum. The consultant worked with a core group of representatives from the CPHD to identify key strategic areas, critical issues, opportunities and gaps to guide the development of the five-year strategic plan 2023-2028. The plan was developed with a mission statement, vision with 4 strategic pillars:

1. Advocacy and awareness training with the strategic objective, people understand that healthy plants are good for human life
2. Capacity building of National bodies with the strategic objective, appropriate knowledge is readily available for practical use
3. Technical norm and process development with the strategic objective, all IPPC standards reflect the regions interest and are implemented fully
4. Organizational development with the strategic objective, CPHD has all the capacities it need to deliver on its mandate

Key points of the CPHD strategic plan are:

- ✚ Target levels and key actions are determined annually
- ✚ Promoting annual monitoring and evaluation (self-assessment) on the implementation of the key actions to determine rate and success of implementation
- ✚ Allowing CPHD to set new realistic key actions and targets based on the level of achievement

Plenary

Suggestion from floor: as the plan is further developed the perspectives of the private sector, farmers, exporters, importers should be considered.

8.2 overview of the Approved CPHD/GCSI Funded 2023-2024 Projects

Summary of project 2023-2024

Projects have been funded for 15 years by the USDA/APHIS and on 28th October 2022, the GCSI Cross functional Working Group sent out a call to regional partners, Member States, organizations and other interested parties to submit Regional Safeguarding Projects for funding considerations.

In December 2022, the CPHD submitted 5 projects for funding totaling USD 415,525.00. all 5 projects were approved for support but because of budgetary constraints the value was reduced by 10%.

The approved projects are:

1. The 16th CPHD annual meeting
2. Management and maintenance of the CPHD digital presence for improved safeguard – CBIS; FFMS; pest surveillance tool; CPDN
3. The formation of the Tuta absoluta committee of experts working group/action committee
4. The CPHD early warning and surveillance network for priority pest of mutual concern
5. Supporting the sensitization and expansion of the CPHD's network through targeted publications and strategic virtual outreach initiatives/trainings.

9.0 Capacity Building and Regional Initiatives: Reports From Partner Organizations and Collaborating Agencies on Plant Health Projects and Future Planning

9.1 Aphis GCSI, Dennis Martin

Presenter provided comments on pre-clearance and offshore programme, highlighting the personnel involved and their substantive positions.

Programme Funding

Programme is user fee funded through agriculture quarantine inspections; inspections of passengers; conveyances and cargo all adjusted periodically. Currently going through one of the adjustment periods. It's highly travel and commodity movement dependent. The money goes into the AQI agricultural quarantine inspection fund.

Regional Safeguarding Projects

Funding has returned to the pre COVID level. This year 6 safeguarding projects were facilitated by a cooperative agreement with the hope of 12–13-month duration. This will streamline the administrative process. Going forward the project will return to the January-to-January calendar.

Regional Resource Usage

The activity of the resources are available to the countries with regards to the CPHD website, the FFMS, CBIS, and pest surveillance. It has to be shown that there is compliance and usage of 75% - 100% and not 10%. Usage should be increase for as budgets shrink people the consideration will be return on investment.

Looking Forward

- ✚ Increased and open communication and feedback is very important
- ✚ Innovation and sharing resources e.g., CPHD meeting in tandem with the IPPC
- ✚ Advancing and strengthening plant health safeguard in the greater Caribbean region through responses from the questionnaire.

9.2 RPPO Activities, Juliet Goldsmith

Presenter told the meeting that CAHFSA was established to perform 3 major functions. The relevant function to this gathering is to safeguard against the threat of and manage the incidents of plant health. It is within this context that CAHFSA was recognized as the regional plant protection organization for the Caribbean region.

Work Programme 2023

Presenter recognized four relevant outputs:

1. Initiatives to address constraints and barriers to regional and international markets
 - Implementing decisions out of COTED as well as heads of government meeting
 - Develop 10 SPS standards 4 based on plant health
 - Implementation of a pilot SPS commodity guidelines
2. Initiatives to support and strengthen capacity evaluations: PCE to be done in Jamaica and Belize.
 - Prioritization of investment for market infrastructure
 - Working on CAHFSA website
 - Strengthening/developing a service portfolio by providing training to members
 - Letter of agreement with regional centre for training and technical transfer
3. Interventions to enhance cohesion among Member States
4. Mechanism for regular engagement of Caricom member states with intergovernmental organizations.

9.3 CABI, Naitram Ramnanan

Current program 2023 -2024

1. Plantwise activities run by CABI expert in Brazil and is implemented in Barbados, Grenada, Trinidad and Tobago, Jamaica. Two courses of CABI flagship global programme to assist in the development of diagnostic skills are available for free. A wealth of information can be found on the CABI knowledge bank
2. Preventing cost of invasive alien species for Barbados and the OECS. Data sheets are being added to the CBIS. Invasive plants have already been uploaded. This also involves quantifying risks which includes risk assessment of passenger traffic
3. Operationalizing IAS trust fund: regional consultation held. Countries approved concept and a committee established to define the governance structure.
4. Surveillance for TR4 planned for 2023: A webinar on surveillance is planned for October 2023.
5. Projects for 2023: registration of biopesticides; and protection of the gecko in Barbados.

9.4 CARDI, Dionne Clark

The relevant plant health activities of CARDI are related to commodity improvement, climate change mitigation and adaptation. The institutions Strategic Plan 2023-2027 will be finalized by October 2023. The programmes include:

1. Pilot programme for climate resilience. The value of agriculture component is USD 930,000 and is focused on:
 - Capacity building in mitigation strategies
 - Crop simulation modelling in roots and tubers and vegetables

The project closed off in June 2022. In Jamaica the trends indicated that we had drought tolerant responses in 2 of the varieties because we looked at these varieties on the rain fed and irrigated conditions.

2. Coconut industry Alliance development flagship project 2019-2022 in partnership with the International Trade Center ITC and the coconut industry board of Jamaica. The project worked with Key local partners in 12 countries with the general intention to improve coconut industry development, expansion and enhanced support. The key areas were: climate smart technology; and mother palm selection
3. CDB Regional Sweet Potato Value Chain Enhancement Technology Transfer Project. The value of the project is USD 810,000. The project components include:
 - Access to planting material through breeding, research, germplasm banks and training and demonstration
 - Characterization of natural sweet potato in Caymans from 44 diverse germplasm collection
 - Germplasm conservation of black and red beans and soya in Belize
 - Commercial production of seed mainly in Belize
 - Support countries on various technical committees
 - Resource mobilization from CABI, IICA, EU, FAO and USAID for project funding

9.5 CIRAD, Catherine Abadie

Actions Taken in 2022-2023

1. Scientific and technical actions: disease control
 - There were several disease control activities conducted in banana for Black sigatoka and TR4, Citrus for HLB Citrus greening and Yam for Anthracnose.
 - Banana hybrids were developed in Martinique, Guadeloupe and Reunion since 2020 for the control of Black sigatoka.
 - Three banana hybrids were developed in Colombia (Agrosavia) since 2022 for testing under TR4 infestation conditions and for the local market. Research in collaboration with CATIE demonstrating the effect of intercropping of banana with cocoa and the severity of Black sigatoka. The result was a significant reduction of Black sigatoka

- For HLB/Citrus greening in the Caribbean, CIRAD developed and evaluated citrus genotype tolerant to HLB in Martinique, Guadeloupe, French Guyana, Reunion since 2016, Jamaica and Cuba since 2023.
 - Another activity in disease control was the work in yam to control anthracnose. This included the characterization of yam germplasm and the phenotyping of 200 hybrids and 150 varieties from 26 countries
 - In terms of disease surveillance, in Mayotte, a special environment, a kit was developed for the diagnosis and identification of TR4. The kit will be evaluated before the end of 2023
 - Still under surveillance, the common origin of HLB in Martinique and Guadeloupe was derived from samples. A risk map is being developed taking into consideration all issues. Lethal yellowing surveillance activities was also conducted in Guadeloupe.
2. Regional Training in Surveillance 2023
- Regional training on statistical sampling in surveillance was held in April 2023. Sixteen persons were trained from three French territories. The manual is available and can be translated into English if the CPHD is interested in the training
 - Training in emerging diseases of cocoa held in Colombia. Training focused on molecular tools for early diagnosis and the recognition of emerging cocoa diseases in Latin America and the Caribbean.
 - Training on genetic resources in Guadeloupe from 6-13 March 2023. Six countries participated, Jamaica, St. Lucia, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Martinique, Guadeloupe and Dominica.
 - Training in plant evaluation was held in Guadeloupe from 2-5 May 2023.
3. New regional actions 2023
- Planned workshop on early regional alert in Costa Rica from 6 -7 September, 2023
 - Regional participatory workshop phase 2 in the DR in mid-November
 - Regional training in banana durable practices, in Guadeloupe in mid-September 2023
 - TR4 simulation exercise in Trinidad with CPHD, GCSI, IICA, 26 -28 September 2023
 - Recognition of citrus diseases in Cuba in September and October 2023
 - Regional survey on bioproducts used in the Caribbean and Central America scheduled for the period September – October. CPHD countries are asked to indicate their interest and willingness to participate in survey

9.6 IICA, Janet Lawrence

The agriculture health and food safety programme has three goals:

1. Foster technical and institutional improvements in agricultural health and food safety systems
2. Harmonize, update and implement science-based health, safety and quality standards
3. Develop capacities to adopt best practices and to tackle emerging issues.

Under goal number 1 which focuses on strengthening institutions as it relates to agricultural health and food safety systems under the GCSI IICA led projects the key achievements include:

- 1.1 Evaluation of emergency response for priority pests and the guidelines for the conduct of table top simulations exercises. Simulations were conducted in 5 countries namely Antigua and Barbuda, Dominica, Grenada, Jamaica and St. Lucia to determine the capacity of their safeguarding systems to

respond to the entry of priority pests, Citrus canker, Leprosis and Leaf miner. This year 2023 the activity is being expanded to other countries along with a series of tools being developed to further assist countries to improve their emergency response.

- Improvement in the capacity of countries to identify plant parasitic nematodes through training courses in nematology in collaboration with the University of Florida in September 2022. Over 30 participants from 16 countries attended the workshop. Subsequent to the training a follow up with participants indicated the usefulness of the training. Over 90% of participants indicated that they shared/utilized their knowledge gained from the course and/or initiated the development of information products. to further build capacity a study tour has been planned in collaboration with the University of Florida for October 2023.

1.2 11th EDF Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures

This project has 3 components: 1. Development of the SPS regulatory framework; 2. AHFS capacity building; 3. Strengthening SPS capacity in the fisheries sector

In relation to the plant health activities project achievements included:

- Regional AHFS Policy and Action Plan and National AHFS Policy Framework was finalised and validated by countries and endorsed by COTED in 2022. Antigua and Barbuda were supported to develop their national AHFS policy and action plan in May 2023.
 - Support to 3 countries to strengthen legislation in areas of plant and animal health and food safety for greater enforcements and market compliance. Countries supported were Belize, Guyana and St. Lucia
 - Strengthening SPS compliance and laboratory testing capacity. The compilation of the laboratory tests required for compliance and improved market access was completed. Four laboratories will be selected for upgrade – training, technical guidance
 - Improved SPS compliance in GAP auditing in the public and private sector. An e-course manual was developed the course comprises four (4) modules and twelve (12) lessons. Participants will be required to complete the course within ten (10) weeks. The course is currently being delivered through IICAs e-learning platform and over 600 persons have registered for the course.
 - Capacity building support to the management levels of cadmium in cocoa concentrations in cocoa and cocoa derived products from Trinidad and Tobago, through a coordinated regional approach, in order to comply with new EU regulations establishing cadmium limits
2. Harmonize, update and implement science-based health, safety and quality standards
 - The focus here is strengthening the capacities of Member Countries for effective implementation of the WTO SPS Agreement and active, useful participation of member countries in international SPS forums. IICA collaborated with FAO, IPPC and CAHFSA to successfully host the IPPC regional workshop for the Caribbean in August 2022
 - IICA provides support to countries to attend meetings, especially the Codex meetings, host webinars, and of course it's an integral part of the IPPC planning committee for the review of standards
 3. Develop capacities to adopt best practices and to tackle emerging issues

- In collaboration with CABI supported Improved management of risks posed by invasive species in pet aquaria and horticulture trade pathways in Barbados and the OECS by managing IAS threats posed by the horticulture trade pathway particularly those that pose the greatest risk of becoming invasive
- In relation to TR4, IICA is the secretariat for the Global Alliance for TR 4. The Global Alliance has 3 task forces that look at training, methods of control and breeding and genetics and have developed proposals which are now being submitted to donors for funding that will benefit the Caribbean, Latin America and beyond.

9.10 Agrosavia, Monica Betancourt

Presentation focused on TR4 current issues and future outlook

- First detected in Colombia in 2019
- The isolates of TR4 from Colombia and Peru are different. It can be inferred that they were different incursions
- The isolates from La Guafira and Magdalena are similar
- The number of cases and growth rate of the disease declined over time with the use of biosecurity measures

Pillars of programme

1. Biosecurity
2. Timely detection
3. Biological control
4. Pre-breeding programme utilizing desirable genetic traits

Biosecurity at the farm level includes visitors wearing suits on farms and the designation of exclusive areas on farms.

Future work

1. Exclusion in countries where TR4 is not present
2. Developing biosecurity measures for all farms

9.8 ORISA, Fermin Fortunato Blanco

ORISA is a Regional Plant Protection Organization (RPPO) with a mission to assist its member countries in developing their work plans on plant health, animal health, Food Safety and Quarantine services; assisting in preventing or delaying the introduction and distribution of quarantine pest in the region; and contributing to controlling regulated non-quarantine pests and other pest of economic importance. The main plant health focus of the ORISA work plan:

1. Climate variability and plant health
2. Technological platforms for plant health to include strengthening of diagnostic capacity and risk management within the NPPO and RPPO. Design and implementation of the regional VigiMusa platform which will include protocols for surveillance, sampling, surveys, diagnostics, simulation exercises, online study courses, and should be a meeting point for producers, competent authority, research institutions that form part of Musa sector of the Region

3. Development and implementation of the Traceability System. Financing activities related to the design of the traceability system for Musa species, including workshops and training in person for the users of the platform
4. Project with the International Development Bank (IDB) and with ICDF Taiwan for developing digital platforms to enhance surveillance, strengthen laboratory diagnostics, traceability system for banana products, public awareness, and early warning systems.

9.9 UWI, Augustin Thomas

In an effort to address several challenges including that of Food and nutrition Security, the UWI has embarked on the following to ensure challenges are mitigated:

1. Training
 - Local and regional plant quarantine training. UWI is currently in the process of creating platform through Myelearning and hopes to deliver the accredited programme by January 2024. The programme will run from January – June 2024 with a virtual laboratory session in July
 - Youth aquaculture project full time training in one year
 - Sweet potato tissue culture training from July 2023 – July 2024 in collaboration with CARDI. Participating states: Cayman, Belize, Antigua and Barbuda, Barbados, St Vincent and Grenadines, Guyana
 - Shade house programme being implemented in collaboration with the Co-operative Republic of Guyana’s National Agricultural Research and Extension Institute, the University of the West Indies, St. Augustine and the Land Settlement Agency
2. Projects
 - Production of the black soldier fly as an alternative source of high-quality protein for poultry and aquaculture feed and will involve 4 Caribbean countries over 2 years.
 - Product Development as an alternative to HHP. The Department of Food Production developed the Biophyt 1. as an alternative to HHPs for the management of Bacteria and Fungi diseases in vegetable crops. The product is currently produced and made available to farmers at the Market Place of the Faculty of Food and Agriculture.
3. Tertiary programmes
 - Post Graduate Diploma in Pesticide Technology and Management. The Faculty of Food and Agriculture offered a new programme on the Postgraduate Diploma on Pesticide Technology and Management funded by the FAO. The programme ran from September 2022 – June 2023. The programme was delivered entirely online and there were 16 participants from the Region. The programme will again be offered in September.
 - Postgraduate Diploma/MSc Tropical Crop Protection
4. Services
 - Recently launched low cost Agro-Environmental Plant Health Services, initiated to support the high demand for plant health services

9.11 CARICOM Video, Shaughn Baugh

The video focused on the upcoming Caribbean Week of Agriculture CWA from the 9-13 October 2023 in the Bahamas. The week will be launched on 1st September 2023. The theme for this year is “Accelerating 25 by 2025”. For more information visit: <https://cwa2023.caricom.org/>

10.1 GCSI Revised Project structure, Dennis Martin

The new approach involved the cross functional group working together to define the operational plan. The process entailed:

1. Meeting facilitated by a seasoned professional
2. During the process the planning terms were defined with a concomitant development of the agenda and associated timelines related to the planning terms:
 - Vision
 - Mission
 - Goal
 - Objective
 - Tasks
 - Critical success factors
 - Barriers
 - Projects

The operational goals were strengthened outlining respective objectives, critical success factors and prerequisites to achieve the objectives; The barriers and risks and assumptions to be considered in the project management process were also outlined; and the step-by-step process to define stakeholders, tasks and the streamlining of activities was conducted for all the projects namely:

- Early Warning System
- Harmonized Pest Exclusion and Safeguarding Strategy
- Emergency Response/Preparedness
- Communications Network
- Resource Strategies

10.2 Don't Pack a Pest (DPAP) Outreach, Dennis Martin

The DPAP is a traveler education programme designed to reduce the risk of unsuspecting travelers unknowingly bringing a serious threat to agriculture and natural resources to a country.

In the Caribbean there are currently 595 signs in 45 ports of entry. However, the outreach program can be more than signs. It can be in the form of travel videos used in digital advertising and social media; advertising (digital, print or electronic); and website pages in English and Spanish.

Getting started with DPAP

1. partnership established, by mutual agreement, between the partner country organization and APHIS
2. Initial site visit conducted
3. Signage proposal delivered to partner by APHIS

4. Partner country secures permissions from local authorities
5. Signage proposal utilized as basis for competitive bid process for DPAP signage fabrication and installation
6. U. S. DPAP Team makes all arrangements
7. Complete signage package provided by USDA-APHIS, at no-cost to DPAP program partner country

Work plan 2023-2024

- ✚ Continued expansion in the greater Caribbean Region

11.0 Special Joint Technical Session

11.1 Emerging Pests Issues and ongoing Pest Exclusion, Management and Safeguarding Activities

11.1.1 update on *Tuta absoluta* detection and management in Trinidad and Tobago, Kishore Ragbir

In 2021 a surveillance conducted in Trinidad and Tobago detected the presence of the pest. In 2022 the presence was confirmed by CABI, United Kingdom and the Florida department of agriculture. Since then, a national survey was conducted in 8 counties at locations that included farmers, nurseries, importers, exporters, markets & points of entry. The field survey collected approx. 240 suspected *P absoluta* specimens in 2 counties: St George & Caroni. The pest was absent in the other 6 counties.

Since the confirmation in July 2022, the Ministry of Agriculture launched an IPM programme with a public awareness campaign; relevant cultural practices; pheromone trapping and chemical application activities; ongoing monitoring and surveillance of activities island wide; and Natural Enemy Identification.

Conclusion

- ✚ insect remains present in 2 counties, St Georges and Caroni
- ✚ no damage observed on plants or fruits
- ✚ only adult moths caught in pheromone traps
- ✚ farmers continue insecticide programmes
- ✚ there is ongoing public awareness programme
- ✚ IPM cultural practices continue
- ✚ IPM pheromone trapping and chemical control using class 3 and 4 chemicals continue.

11.1.1 Accreditation ISO17020/2012 for Export Inspection and Certification, Damian Rowe

Jamaica strived for accreditation to improve efficiency and effectiveness of its regulatory functions in relation to the legal instruments, personnel, infrastructure, policies, procedures and service delivery. In pursuit of a system that would facilitate what PQPI was determined to achieve, several management systems were reviewed. The that ISO/IEC17020:2012 was evaluated and chosen as the best fit for Jamaica. The process and the areas for accreditation were:

- ✚ Inspection of export
- ✚ Field inspection
- ✚ Fumigation inspection
- ✚ Packing house inspection
- ✚ Heat treatment inspection.

Jamaica started the process by training all staff in ISO/IEC 17020:2012 and in document control. Consultation began in June 2022 and a request for accreditation was submitted to the Jamaica National Agency for Accreditation (JANAAC). The process was in 4 phases:

Phase 1

- ✚ Gap analysis and development of strategic plans outlining resources required

Phase 2

- ✚ Development of quality management system, which included developing policy manuals, standard operating procedures and document control systems

Phase 3

- ✚ A team approach to training and implementation of the developed quality management system.
- ✚ Competence-based training that includes the concurrent delivery of specific training in standard requirements as well as PQPI QMS policies and procedures
- ✚ Competence evaluations are required for accreditation and so the competence of staff performing inspections and other activities was verified at the end of training

Phase 4

- ✚ Development and implementation of the internal audit and management review processes; established internal auditors trained to be lead consultants
- ✚ Management review assisted in preparation of accreditation plan

Within 4 days of assessment, Jamaica was accredited.

11.1.1 overview of the Dominican Republic NPPOs Surveillance Programme, Rosa Lazala

The programme is described as a surveillance system conducted out in the fields and plantations. In the programme there are pests important for agriculture but are absent including TR4, Tuta and Potato virus all absent in the Dominican Republic. Present in the DR is Fruit fly, African snails and Black sigatoka.

For TR4 all tests have been registered as negative.

There is constant monitoring by technicians. 235 traps are placed on 110 farms for Tuta surveillance. Tuta is absent in DR but is present in neighboring countries. Traps are distributed to neighboring countries to assist in their surveillance.

The Giant African Snail is present in the western part of the DR.

Black sigatoka is under control.

Thrips continue to be a problem, however, there is a daily control programme currently implemented.

11.2.5 DR NPPOs Trade Facilitation Activities Export/Import Certification System, Rosa Lazala

The implementation of ePhyto is one of the priority actions to strengthen the Ministry of Agriculture Department of Plant Health (DSV) capabilities. In 2018, during a bilateral USA-DR phytosanitary meeting the DR expressed interest in joining the IPPC ePhyto initiative. Consultations conducted with various sectors to evaluate the possibility of implementing the ePhyto and issuing electronic certifications instead of using paper; harmonizing commercial exchange with direct participation of exporters/importers and interested parties. In July 2020, DSV decides to adopt the ePhyto, starting tests and participating in trainings/virtual meetings by the IPPC on the ePhyto -GENS platform. A pilot test was conducted, issuing 480 phytosanitary certificates. In April 2021, DSV informed IPPC the decision to implement electronic PC. In May 2021, an IPPC, DSV, OTCA (DR -Commercial Agreements Office) workshop was held with exporters, importers, broker and stakeholders. In June 2021 the production of ePhyto was enabled. Between July-September 2021, the system was implemented in 6 international airports. From June 2021 to July 2023, 6,565 phytol have been issued for air and sea shipments.

The implementation of ePhyto for DR has many advantages: simpler and faster process with better response time, standardization of criteria, increased confidence in the system, PCs are replaced at no additional cost, fewer Courier payments, PC are issued at any time and from anywhere, at no cost to DSV. DSV continues to train interested parties. To date, ePhytos are exchanged with the USA, EU, Argentina, and Chile. There is an intention to implement with Canada in the future.

The Dominican Republic single window e-learning platform is free for all stakeholders. There is constant training of importers, Exporters and technicians in the use of the platform for trading in ePhyto.

11.1.2 The Impact of CARDI Coconut Project with a focus on the priority pest Red ring disease, Dionne Clarke Harris

The presentation gave an overview of a regional project which started 8 years ago. Phase 2 started in 2019 and ended in 2022. The main activities of the programme were:

- ✚ Develop coconut nurseries and the multiplication of varieties to increase coconut production efficiency adopting climate smart practices in order to meet local, regional and global demand
- ✚ Build and strengthen Integrated pest management
- ✚ Waste management to increase farmers' sustainability and climate resilience
- ✚ Promotion of producer organisations and support linkages

- ✚ Improve market linkages and facilitation of public and private sector stakeholders, with view to achieve inclusion of smallholder and family farmers
- ✚ Climate change
- ✚ Build Market and technical collaboration between a wide range of value chain operators, including both farmers and processors, and guide Caribbean support services to assist with commercially driven value chain development.

Key areas related to plant health

- ✚ Climate smart technology
- ✚ Mother palm selection
- ✚ Nursery establishment – 56 nurseries established
- ✚ Capacity building in invitro propagation
 - 5000 shoots were distributed for weaning and hardening in the DR and Jamaica
 - 4 partner institutions supported to upgrade tissue culture facilities and plant breeding capacities. Representatives to be trained at CICY and on-site on production and acclimatization of plantlets from shoots.
- ✚ Intercropping
- ✚ Pest management
- ✚ Soil fertility management

Activities have been implemented across the region: 105 lead farmers to improve climate resilience with water tanks on demonstration plots; 25 IPM plots established across the region; 20,000 intercropping seedlings (hot pepper, broccoli and plantain) distributed to farmers.

Major Priority Pests from 12 countries in project

- ✚ Coconut mite
- ✚ Red palm weevil
- ✚ Lethal yellowing
- ✚ Rhinoceros beetle
- ✚ South American Palm Weevil in 7 countries
- ✚ Red ring disease in 4 countries.
- ✚ Hemipterans – scale, white flies and mealy bug

Integrated Pest Management

- ✚ Field sanitation
- ✚ Fertilizer application
- ✚ Monitoring
- ✚ Rouging and destruction of diseased trees*
- ✚ Pheromone and repellent *
- ✚ Pesticides (soaps, oils, safer chemicals)

Demonstration and Trial plots have been established for IPM of selected pests

Plenary

St. Lucia: May need to carry out a regional survey to determine whether nematode exists in countries.

Response: the idea is to move away from homogenous planting of varieties and to engage in mixed planting to manage the disease

CABI: do you have a mortality rate for countries that have the weevil but no nematode?

Response: data exists

11.2.1 Overview of Advanced Pest Diagnostics, Gideon Alake

Food security has become critically challenging because of crop losses of 25-40% annually over the past 60 years resulting in losses of \$500 billion in damages.

The effectiveness of pesticides is waning as resistance increases, making it vital to find sustainable solutions as soon as possible.

Historically, pest management focused on reactive tactics, such as chemical and biocontrol strategies, but these have proven ineffective in recent years. Advanced digital technologies promise a new proactive paradigm since they enable early danger identification and precise targeting for intervention.

Key technologies highlighted:

- ✚ *AI and machine learning* - real-time monitoring and prediction via sensors, imagery, and modeling
- ✚ *Metagenomic* - characterization of plant and pest microbiomes for diagnostics and biological control
- ✚ *Computational simulation* - simulating biological systems to refine integrated pest management strategies.

Artificial intelligence technologies provide granular insight into present and potential risks. Metagenomics shows interactions between microorganisms and control options. Modeling permits the systematic improvement of techniques through virtual experimentation. Together, they can convert reactive into predictive management.

Pest management may become more proactive, accurate, and sustainable with integrated adoption. To achieve success, we must have open data sharing, enhanced R&D skills, and cooperation among stakeholders. Policy and funding must guarantee that smallholder farmers benefit from and assist in creating solutions. Developing capabilities for large-scale data analytics is crucial for success with these new technologies. A comprehensive and systematic approach that benefits farmers, consumers, and the environment is necessary for moving forward.

The University of Florida announces at the 16th CPHD a USD 70 million partnership in AI as a new approach to improving diagnostics.

11.2.4 Plant Health and Climate Change, Glenn Fowler

Presented a scientific review on the impact of climate change on plant health. One of the ways suggested in addressing the effects of climate change on plant health is to develop pest forecasting systems to better evaluate and manage changes in pest risk and for better decision making. The PPQ pest forecasting system is called the Spatial Analytic Framework for Advanced Risk Information Systems (SAFARIS). This system has a

wide range of predictive mapping capabilities including climate change pest forecasting. Potential uses of climate change pest forecasts include strategic planning to reduce pest impacts, cost benefit analysis of pest programs, pest spread modeling, and in trade discussions to prevent pest introduction.

PPQ is also reducing how it contributes to climate change. Some of the measures include:

- Working to reduce Methyl Bromide use with climate friendly alternatives like new fumigants, vacuum steam treatment, and phytosanitary irradiation.
- Reducing unnecessary pest treatments through better molecular diagnostics and risk analysis.





Additionally, PPQ collaborates nationally and internationally to address climate change effects on plant health. Some of the ways PPQ does this include contributing to APHIS climate change adaptation planning and partnering with the USDA Climate Hubs and the International Plant Protection Convention on climate change issues.

11.2.2 Epidemic Intelligence of Plant Health, Emeric Gordon

This is a multidisciplinary and multi-partner collaboration for one health with the goal to develop adapt and promote surveillance systems in the face of epidemic threats. Three main areas covered during presentation:

1. The participatory workshop on information sharing (with CaribVET and CPHD) held in June in Guadeloupe. During this workshop, we tried to set up a method of continuous activities and discussions, enabling the inclusion of people animal, plant and human health (One Health approach), from different countries.
2. The state-of-the-art survey on epidemiological intelligence in the Caribbean (animal and plant health). The aim of this questionnaire is to provide relevant information for understanding how epidemiological monitoring is carried out in different countries/institutions.
3. Presentation of tools such as PADI-Web to facilitate epidemiological monitoring. This tool can be used to monitor signals found on the Internet (media, articles, social networks, etc.), so as not to miss a potential suspicion or emergence. The aim of this presentation is therefore to highlight these three topics, which are three different but complementary approaches to implementing measures to prevent and control epidemics, and to improve overall health in the Caribbean.

The collaboration comprises 7 member organizations, 8 working groups, 4 cross platform 4 cross platform working groups with over 300 participants. The working groups are:

-  HLB – Citrus greening
-  TR4 Surveillance group – 6 French overseas territories
-  CIRAD
-  INRA

11.1.5 IDPH 2023 and Looking Ahead to 2024, Natsumi Yamada

Highlighted the importance of UN international day with the aim to raise public awareness of and mobilize support for important causes such as human rights, environment, health, education, etc. in this case it was International Day of Plant Health, 12 May 2023.

The 2023 theme was Environmental Protection for Plant Health and over 40 countries around the world organized events for May 12.

IDPH 2024 activity

- ✚ Start planning your IDPH 2024 activity aimed at the general public - marathons, concerts, shows, farmer forums, festivals, fairs or tree planting ceremonies
- ✚ You could also host a public lecture, panel or round table with government officials, educators, scientists, farmers and private sector representatives

The IDPH "*Get Involved Guide*" and *Trello board* feature resources to help best organize your event.

- ✚ What activities are planned in the Region? Start giving thought to potential activities
- ✚ How can the Region and national plant protection organizations plan for 12 May activities in 2024?

Countries are urged to start developing their ideas and activities for 2024

11.1.2 IPPC Strategic Framework 2020-2030 Development Agenda Items

There are three core activities and eight development agenda items of new work aligned with the IPPCs vision mission, and strategic objectives.

The three core activities of the IPPC community are:

1. Standards setting
2. Standards implementation & capacity development
3. Communication and international cooperation

The eight development agenda items are:

1. Harmonization of electronic data exchange (ePhyto)
2. Commodity - and pathway - specific ISPMs
3. Management of e-commerce and postal and courier pathways
4. Enabling the use of third-party entities
5. Strengthening pest outbreak alert and response systems (POARS)
6. Assessment and management of climate change impacts on plant health
7. Global phytosanitary research coordination
8. Diagnostic laboratory networking

11.2.3 One Health, CIRAD Collaborative Approaches Concepts and actions, Jennifer Pradel

One health recognizes the interdependence of human, animal and plant health and the wider environment. It refers to a collaborative, interdisciplinary, and multi-sectoral approach to achieving an optimal health of populations.

One health historically focused on the animal and human health sector. Plant health was never really part of the concept, although it has its rightful place alongside the other health sectors. The contribution of plant health to one health starts with food safety and food and nutrition security and also the use of pesticides in crop protection and the impact on the environment. The one health approach provides a framework to enhance plant disease surveillance and control just like in other sectors.

There is potentially much more plant health can do by working with the ecosystem. CaribGREEN recognizes one health as a collaboration since it promotes intersectoral actions, adopts a multi-solving approach and strength based and adapts a healthy setting approach.

As part of CaribGreen project, CIRAD dedicates an entire component to developing an enabling environment for collaboration for which CPHD is part of. The objective of this component is to foster interdisciplinary and cross sectoral collaboration on research, development and capacity building around agro-ecosystem health and to facilitate the integration of the plant health sector. Along those lines, the CaribGREEN project seeks to provide more solid foundations for the long-term implementation to enhance regional collaborative dynamics. The project has four main components:

1. System thinking. What is agro-ecosystem
2. Developing an enabling environment for collaborations: governance, tools, awareness, communication, capacity building etc.
3. Developing impact-oriented actions and monitoring and evaluation
4. Sharing experience and lessons learnt

Interested members of the CPHD are invited to contribute to sharing of experience sessions or to some activities being implemented until May 2024: proof of concept of a new collaborative tool developed by CIRAD (Too Cool), One health in Action series, system thinking workshop, monitoring and evaluation system or other contributions to disaster risk reduction and management efforts.

Contact: Jennifer.pradel@cirad.fr

11.3.1 New IPPC Guides and e-learning courses, Fransisco Guiterrez

Presented meeting with the resources available to everyone, inclusive of courses, guidelines etc to enhance Phyto capacity in support of members of the IPPC. The tools are aimed to help NPPOs to effectively implement the following:

- ✚ International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC),
- ✚ International Standards for Phytosanitary Measures (ISPMs), and
- ✚ Recommendations of the Commission on Phytosanitary Measures (CPM).

Activities related to training and guidelines have been ongoing. Includes case studies that highlight how different countries have addressed some of the challenges associated with implementing ISPM 15 and provides practical guidance to help NPPOs apply the phytosanitary measures approved in ISPM 15 (Regulation of wood packaging material in international trade).

A guide for developing contingency plans for outbreaks of quarantine pests published in 2023 provides guidance on how NPPOs can effectively organize and allocate resources to eradicate or contain pest outbreaks and discusses criteria for establishing and maintaining pest freedom, pest reporting and includes several country case studies.

Prevention, preparedness and response guidelines for *Fusarium Tropical Race 4 (TR4)* of banana also published in 2023. The guidelines focus on the following:

- ✚ emergency preparedness and preventing the introduction and spread of *Fusarium TR4*
- ✚ provides relevant biological and scientific information that should be considered when developing a response plan
- ✚ includes elements relevant to pest risk analysis, implementing phytosanitary measures, official diagnostics and surveillance

There were four e-learning courses published in 2022:

1. Pest Risk Analysis and its main components
2. Phytosanitary export certification system
3. Phytosanitary inspection system
4. Surveillance and reporting obligations related to ISPM 6 surveillance; ISPM 8 determination of pest status; and ISPM 17 pest reporting

There is a huge ongoing effort to translate the guides to all the FAO country languages.

In October 2023 a Webinar on new IPPC guides and e-learning courses will be held for all NPPO and RPPO staff members, and others within the phytosanitary community.

11.2.7 CABI/IICA Pet and Horticulture Project, Diana Francis, Naitram Ramnanan

The study is based on the data gathered and focuses on horticultural trade risks as IAS pathways and species threat to Caribbean countries. It also covers IAPS management and the elements of a smart IAPS management framework to implement smarter actions for the horticulture trade pathway.

This is against the background of historical intentional introduction of IAS through trade (imports) in new plants that have become invasive. In global trade, ornamentals are most diversified products and fast changing in the horticultural industry, given the trend of growing world exports. Therefore, if the trend is known it will allow for the region to address issues related to the risks and concerns of associated with ornamental trade, whether it be a unique situation or something that should be strengthened within the existing system IAS management framework.

The information gathered is based on what exists in the region and seeks to enhance the analysis of:

1. IAS species pathways and impacts

2. Ornamental horticultural trade as IAS pathways
3. Priority ornamental species threats to the OECS and Barbados
4. IAPS management of the ornamental horticulture trade pathway
5. Elements of a smart IAPS Management Framework for the horticulture trade pathway

Most of the plants in the region today were brought in intentionally for food, forage forestry etc. but some have now become invasive. The unintentional spread beyond planned areas.

Main Findings

1. Ornamental trade exists within the Hs: 06 classification and its difficult to isolate ornamental species from the broad classification. Plants and plant products associated with agriculture are not included. There is a higher risk from the tourism driven economies; Barbados at greater risk given imports over a wider set of HS codes and more countries.
2. Imports are highly concentrated by product and market, no annual consistency
 - Mostly derived from transit through the USA
 - Minimal trading through CARICOM
 - Via e-commerce it is unknown; but the internet is driving the availability of a wide range from diverse sources
 - On Illegal trade it is unknown but the movement exists
3. Trade Regulations and Management
 - Inconsistent procedures for regulating imports (In some countries the priority list is based on the threat to agriculture) and data capture systems especially records of interceptions, PRAs etc. not adequate
 - Little or no information networking pr unifying policy among stakeholders regionally and nationally
 - IAPS exist in the region but have not been effectively managed
4. The Industry Value Chain
 - Small expanding home garden shops, florists, nurseries, cut flower producers, importers etc.
 - Disconnected players across commercial to hobbyist spectrum
 - Imports by individual of sought after species
 - Chain driven by rapid growth in the service sector
5. Risk Tools exist but traded species undefined

Required Actions

1. Prioritize import and trade information systems for better data capture of HS: 06 commodities for early warning risk, threat and risk communication
2. Identify and map major stakeholders and educate them
3. Update import requirements and create traceability systems for effective industry regulation, IAPS management and communication
4. Building a smart recommendations framework beyond study. It provides an opportunity for collation and use of information for better decision making

11.3.2 Regulation of Wood Packaging in International Trade (IPPC Guide) Damian Rowe

Implementation of ISPM 15 in Jamaica started in 2009 on the basis that the trading environment was changing. There was no regulation in place to regulate ISPM 15 for Import Trade. Importers were sensitized and treatment was conducted if pest was found. The treatment involved heat treatment as one and the other fumigation with methyl bromide. Other IPPC treatments involved di-electric (microwave) treatment and fumigation with sulfuryl fluoride.

The only treatment at the time 2006-2009 was with a company, WoodCats International. The Ministry of Agriculture developed a compliance agreement with WoodCats and a work plan was established and implemented.

Beyond this the Ministry established plant protection quarantine regulation for ISPM by reviewing the plant quarantine of 1993 which included the Import Control Regulation of 2005; Citrus Regulation of 2005 and the new inclusion Solid Wood Packaging Regulation 2012.

In 2012 the Ministry of Agriculture started to use the fumigation process. The requirement for implementing the standard is as follows:

- ✚ IPPC ISPM 15 Regulation
- ✚ National regulation
- ✚ System to manage the IPPC Trade Mark

If the NPPO is going third party, the following is required:

- ✚ Compliance Agreement
- ✚ Work Plan
- ✚ Monitoring system

11.3.3 e-Commerce Guide for plants, plant products and other regulated articles in international trade, Fransisco Guitierrez

IPPC and partners are obliged to oversee e-Commerce in managing the phytosanitary risks associated with e-Commerce and the postal and express carrier pathways as one of eight key development agendas in the IPPC Strategic Framework 2020-2030. The Implementation and Capacity Development Committee (IC) provides oversight on e-Commerce and the IPPC Secretariat's work on e-Commerce is guided by the IC Team on e-Commerce.

e-Commerce is any electronic transaction, that leads to the movement of small, low-value parcels across one or more international borders. These parcels are typically handled and delivered directly to the destination by postal services or express carriers and contain plants, plant products and other regulated articles and may be a pathway for the introduction and spread of plant pests.

Key e-Commerce challenges facing NPPOs

- ✚ The growth in e-Commerce has resulted in an unprecedented number of small parcels moving across borders by mail and courier
- ✚ Rapid growth in digital technologies may have outpaced the development and implementation of relevant legislation to effectively regulate e-Commerce trade

- ✚ Identifying plants, plant products and other regulated articles in the mail and courier pathway is one of the biggest challenges faced by NPPO staff at the border
- ✚ Increased volume of small parcels puts pressure on the normal components of a phytosanitary import system (e.g., verifying documentation, inspecting, and issuing phytosanitary certificates)

Desired outcomes

- ✚ NPPOs understand the phytosanitary risks posed by e-commerce.
- ✚ NPPOs have appropriate legislation and authorities in place
- ✚ Lists of regulated and prohibited articles are readily available to stakeholders.
- ✚ Buyers, sellers and other stakeholders are aware of regulatory requirements, risks and responsibilities associated with cross-border e-commerce.
- ✚ Risk management measures are used to screen and intercept e-commerce consignments that present a phytosanitary risk, while facilitating legitimate e-commerce trade.
- ✚ NPPOs collaborate with trading partners, other national border agencies and other organizations involved in the e-commerce supply chain.
- ✚ NPPOs gather data and monitor e-Commerce non-compliances and regulatory activities
- ✚ There is a measurable **reduction in non-compliances** associated with e-Commerce trade

Future IPPC Activities

- ✚ The IPPC e-Commerce Guide will be published soon.
- ✚ A webinar to launch this new IPPC guide will be held in October.
- ✚ Video and fact sheet to raise awareness about e-Commerce and the phytosanitary risks associated with buying and selling plants, plant products and other regulated articles on-line.
- ✚ Continued collaboration with key international organizations such as the World Customs Organization (WCO) and the Universal Postal Union (UPU).

The new IPPC e-Commerce guide will contain a several case studies highlighting country approaches to e-Commerce challenges. Case studies include:

- Plant material sales via social media (United States)
- Activities to address the risk posed by seeds traded through e-commerce (Belgium)
- Controlling regulated articles in e-Commerce trade (Argentina)
- Banning the sale of propagative material through e-Commerce platforms to buyers (United States)
- Initiatives to raise awareness about e-Commerce (Canada)
- Exporting small quantities of dry herbs sold through e-commerce (Jamaica)
- Using a WebCrawler to search for e-Commerce platforms that sell regulated articles (Denmark)
- Using electronic advance data (EAD) to manage biosecurity risks (Australia)
- Educational engagement with online buyers of prohibited plants via social media groups (New Zealand)
- Cooperation between NPPOs to enhance phytosanitary compliance (New Zealand)
- Efforts to stop repeated online purchasing of foreign-origin seeds and bulbs (New Zealand)
- Addressing smuggling of agricultural products (United States)
- Seeking cooperation from e-Commerce platforms: going to the source to stop plant imports (New Zealand)

- ✚ 2023-2024 IPPC Observatory Survey to:
 - measure the key e-Commerce outcomes specified in the Implementation plan for the IPPC Strategic Framework (CPM-17, 2023)
 - evaluate the extent to which NPPOs and RPPOs have implemented the CPM Recommendation on *Internet trade in plants and other regulated articles*;
 - characterize the current phytosanitary risks associated with e-Commerce trade; and
 - guide further work by the IPPC secretariat on e-Commerce.

12.0 Joint TR4 Technical Session

Contributions at the joint technical session on TR4 came from AGROSAVIA, IPPC, ORISA and a report from the chair of the Musa technical working group.

The discussions revolved around the pathways for TR4 , the availability of resistant planting material, the processes and the experiences of various countries and organizations and the potential economic impact of TR4

IPPC

The IPPC Secretariat referred to CPM 14 (2019) where the issues related to emerging pests were merged with the activities to address the IPPC Strategic Framework (2020-2030) development agenda item on Strengthening Pest Outbreak Alert and Response Systems. Two pests of of primary concern for the IPPC Community have been the subject of global efforts, and activities have been incorporated into the IPPC Secretariat’s work plan. One of these pests is TR4.

The Implementation and Capacity Development Committee IC created an IC Team on TR4 in 2021 and approved TORs to select global experts according to technical and practical expertise in the subject matter and areas as surveillance, contingency planning and simulation exercises. As a result, ten (10) qualified experts worldwide composed the Team.

The IC Team on Fusarium TR4 activities for 2021 – 2023:

- ✚ Revision of the contributed resources on TR4 – 12 contributed resources posted on IPP, , including technical situational reports, guidelines, and training materials
- ✚ Series of virtual training workshops on surveillance, diagnostic, inspection, and simulation exercises on TR4 delivered. The three-part virtual workshop series, Fusarium TR4 diagnostic, surveillance, inspection and simulation exercises, was attended by participants from nearly 125 countries. The presentations and recordings are available on the IPP
- ✚ Prevention, preparedness and response guidelines developed and published. In March 2023, the IPPC Secretariat, with the support of the IC Team on TR4, published the Prevention, preparedness, and response guidelines for Fusarium TR4, which were peer-reviewed by around forty-nine experts. The English version is available on the IPP, and the FAO Office for Mesoamerica is considering providing the Spanish translation

Post CPM 19 the IC team on TR4 proposes to Reinforce the IC Team on Fusarium TR4 membership to support the delivery of following activities in Africa in surveillance, diagnostics, table top exercises and simulation under the project FAO support to COMESA trade facilitation programme (GCP/INT/387/COM). The materials to be made available globally.

- ✚ Prevention, preparedness and response guidelines for Fusarium Tropical Race 4 (TR4) of banana (EN, published in 2023)
- ✚ Workshop Series on Fusarium TR4 freely available on the IPP
- ✚ Emergency Preparedness: A guide for developing contingency plans for outbreaks of quarantine pests (EN, published in 2023).

OIRSA

ORISA shared their experiences on the simulation exercises of the Latin America command group on TR4. In the ORISA case, a response plan is key to the success of an early warning system, an early detection system and the possibility of eradication. ORISA has developed. ORISA developed a rapid reaction plan comprising:

1. Emergency/eradication plan
2. Contingency plan – a manual which is continuously updated. Third edition now available.
3. Action plan

To ensure the functioning of the plan the following components seen as prerequisites were included:

Early Warning System

- a) Emergency telephone numbers
- b) Email address for emergency activities
- c) Whatsapp chat group
- d) Social network – Facebook, twitter.....
- e) Web page www.oirsa.org to share information and communicate

Reliable diagnosis Infrastructure

- a) Training of technical staff
- b) Fully equipped laboratories
- c) Conformation of official laboratories network
- d) Inter-lab testing
- e) Certification process
- f) Positive controls test

Phytosanitary epidemiological surveillance system

Functioning surveillance system with political back up and support actions to prevent potential occurrence of TR4 through the evaluation of variables associated with the epidemiological system of country or region.

Adequate resources

- a) Human resources trained
- b) Equipment for eradication and sample collection and all the required processes
- c) Materials
- d) Financial resources most of all

Capacity to conduct simulation exercise

The national working groups in collaboration with RPPOs in each member country provides technical knowledge, guidance and coordinate actions for the:

- a) Sample data collection
- b) Reliable diagnosis
- c) Simulating eradicating the outbreak

In simulation biosecurity is very important. All measures must be in place:

- ✚ There must be clear signs and everyone must cooperate. Work done has now created an awareness in region. Enter clean, come out clean, logo in simulation exercises
- ✚ Transportation vehicles must be disinfected at all times
- ✚ Disinfection of sites as much as possible
- ✚ OIRSA now uses canine units with a canine training school in DR
- ✚ Personnel shoes should be sanitized and should be fully covered with disposable clothes
- ✚ Quarantine area and requirements, machete, fertilizer/urea plastic tarp.....

Standards and regulations

- ✚ Standards and regulations must be in place

After simulation

- ✚ Report on the assessment in terms of desirables and undesirables and improvements to be considered

Plenary

IICA: what is a ball pack figure for simulation?

Response: logistics cost USD 30,000 in Honduras. Note that Honduras is cheaper than the other countries

USDA: are there other ways to assess rather than simulation:

Response: strengthened quarantine and alert system

TR4 Colombia Experience

In summary, the experience in Colombia for the introduction of germplasm refers to the risk analysis being conducted in the country of origin. The material is assessed, tested and classified. Once there is no problem with the NPPO, the plants are released from quarantine and sent in field for testing.

Report of Musa Technical working group

2022-2023 has been busy and active for the Musa TWG.

Achievements for 2022 – 2023 include:

1. Received funding from GCSI to support national Action Plans, simulation exercise, capacity building and validation of tolerant banana germplasm
2. Strengthen linkages with Agrosavia on the following:
 - Regional webinar on Bunchy top virus
 - Participate in regional workshop in Colombia
 - Principle agreement to service as the Caribbeans reference laboratory for TR4
3. Contribute to formulation of CIRAD project
4. Liaise with Central American Network on TR4
5. Develop policy brief on TR4

Future work 2023-2024

In partnership with CABI:

1. Conduct surveillance training in field identification and sampling
2. Collection and processing for lab diagnosis
3. Support drafting of CABI surveillance guidelines
4. Safe introduction of tolerant germplasm
5. Conduct a detection simulation exercise
6. Make available an e-Learning course in English on identification, surveillance and management of TR4

After much discussion and the sharing of experiences, the meeting proposed the following actions for adoption in the region in the fight against TR4:

1. Lobby for the strengthening of national regulations regarding TR4
2. Advocate for strengthening border control resources and technology for early warning and early detection
3. Public awareness programs at the national and regional levels
4. Engagement of stakeholders especially farmers
5. Research and validate tolerant varieties and explore alternative options for food security and livelihood security
6. Increase surveillance
7. Share data for project formulation and impact assessment
8. Encourage a participatory approach to the surveillance, management and exclusion of TR4

**Appendix 1 PROVISIONAL AGENDA: *The Joint meetings of the 16th Caribbean Plant Health Directors Forum and
2023 The International Plant Protection Convention – Regional Workshop for the Caribbean Region***

Day One: Monday 14th August 2023					
Event Opening Ceremony 8:30 am – 10:15 am Tea Break – 10:15 – 10:40 am Zoom Link for joining the meeting: https://iica.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZEtcOyvqjouGtNaXfH1Cqcbh2zluWThBYTd					
No#	Agenda Item	Presenters / Facilitator	Time (mins)	Document	Times
1.0	CPHD OPENING REMARKS				
1.1	Chairman’s Opening Remarks	Brian Crichlow, Cayman Islands	8 mins		
2.0	MEETING ARRANGEMENTS AND PROCEDURAL MATTERS				
2.1	Adoption of 16th CPHD Agenda	<i>All</i>	2 mins		
2.2	Procedural Matters	Brian Crichlow, Cayman Islands	5 mins		10:45 -11:00
3.0	CPHD GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT ISSUES				
3.1	CPHD Charter updates	Brian Crichlow, Cayman Islands	10 mins	Doc / PPT	11:00- 11:10
3.2	Report of the Independent Electoral Committee – process and nominees	Trenton Roach, Anguilla	15 mins	PPT	11:10 -11:25
3.3	Election of the new CPHD Executive Members	Trenton Roach, Anguilla	20mins	Voting	11:25 -11:45
4.0	REGIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL SAFEGUARDING DECISIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS (RECAP)				
4.1	15th CPHD Meeting – decisions and recommendations	Brian Crichlow, Cayman Islands	15 mins	PPT	11:45-12 noon
4.2	COTED Decisions and Recommendations – 2022- 2023 recap	Juliet Goldsmith, CAHFSA	15 mins	PPT	12:00- 12:15
4.3	Report from the GICSV Co-ordinating Committee	Juliet Goldsmith, CAHFSA	15 mins	PPT	12:15 – 12:30

4.4	Update from the CPM Bureau (CPM 17 Report)	Diego QUIROGA, CPM Bureau Member	15 mins	Virtual	12:30 – 12:45
LUNCH BREAK (1 hour)					
5.0	REPORTS FROM TECHNICAL WORKING GROUPS (TWGs) AND NEW INITIATIVES				
5.1	Update of the CPHD Technical Working Groups (TWGs)				
5.1.1	The Safeguarding TWG Report	Karen Barrett Christie, Jamaica	15 mins	PPT	1:45 – 2:00
5.1.2	The Caribbean Pest Diagnostics Network (CPDN) Safeguarding Sub-working Group report	Deanne Ramroop, Trinidad and Tobago	15 mins	PPT	2:00- 2:15
5.1.3	The Regional Priority Pest List Committee (RPPL) Safeguarding Sub-working Group report	Naitram Ramnanan, CABI, Trinidad and Tobago	15 mins	PPT	2:15 -2:30
5.1.4	The Emergency Response and Preparedness Technical Working Group report	Janil Gore Francis, Antigua and Barbuda	15 mins	PPT	2:30 – 2:45
5.1.5	The Fruit Fly Technical Working Group	Alies van Sauers Muller, Suriname	15 mins	PPT	2:45 – 3:00
5.2	Update on GICSV Working Group Activities by CAHFSA Regional Representatives				
5.2.1	- HLB	Hannah Dupal Romain, St Lucia	10 mins	PPT	3:00 -3:10
5.2.2	- Tuta absoluta	Kishma Primus, Antigua and Barbuda	10 mins	Doc	See One Pager
5.2.3	- TR4	Nelson Laville, Dominica	10 mins	PPT	3:10 – 3:20
5.2.4	- ePhyto (global update)	Damian Rowe, Jamaica	15 mins	PPT	3:20- 3:30
TEA BREAK (10MINS)					
5.2.5	- Fruit Flies	Alies van Sauers Muller, Suriname	10 mins	PPT	3:40- 3:50
5.2.6	- Locust	Nadia Ramtahal Singh, Trinidad and Tobago	10 mins	PPT	3:50- 4:00
6.0	CPHD EXECUTIVE LED INITIATIVES – ENHANCING CPHD’S STRUCTURE AND FUNCTION				
6.1	CPHDs 5-year Strategic operational plan and 2023 work plan	Brian Crichlow, Cayman Islands	30 mins	PPT	4:00- 4:30

6.2	A Critical Review of the CPHD TWG Structures and membership	Brian Crichlow, Cayman Islands	30 mins (with discussions)	PPT	4:30-5:00
6.3	Conceptualizing an approach towards identifying a Research Agenda for CPHD	Nelson Laville, Dominica	30 mins (with discussions)	PPT	5:00-5:30
Day Two: Tuesday 15th August 2023 9:00 am – 5:30pm Zoom Link for joining the meeting: https://iica.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZEtcOyvqjouGtNaXfH1Cqcbh2zluWThBYTd					
No#	Agenda Item	Presenters / Facilitator	Time (mins)	Document	Times
7.0	REGIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL TRADE, AGRICULTURAL HEALTH AND FOOD SAFETY ISSUES AND TRENDS CARIBBEAN				
7.1	Trade, Agricultural Health, and Food Safety				
7.1.1	Updates on the 25% by 2025 Reduction in the Regional Food Import Bill Initiative	Shaun Baugh, CARICOM Sec	15 mins	PPT	9:00- 9:15
7.1.2	New EU agri-food rules impacting low and middle-income countries (Agrinfo)	Morag Webb, Head of Science and Policy COLEAD	15 mins	Virtual PPT	9:15 -9:30
7.1.3	The STDF: Opportunities for SPS Capacity Building and Technical Cooperation	Melvin Spreij - Head, Standards and Trade Development Facility (STDF), World Trade Organization	15 min	Virtual PPT	9:30 – 9:45
8.0	PLANT HEALTH DIRECTORS FORUM LED INITIATIVES				
8.1	Update on CPHD Communications, Outreach and Databases				
8.1.1	Overview of the CPHD - CBIS and PeST tools - Outcomes from Jamaica and Cayman CBIS Pilot - Outcomes from St Kitts PeST Pilot	Avenesh Ali, CPHD Website and Database Developer	30mins	PPT / Video	9:45 – 10:15
8.1.2	Update on the CPHD FFMS and Website	Avenesh Ali, CPHD Website and Database Developer	15 mins	PPT	10:15 – 10:30
8.1.3	Capacity Building Database – Concept for the Region	Avenesh Ali, CPHD Website and Database Developer	30 mins	PPT	10:30 – 11:00

TEA BREAK (15 mins)					
8.2	Overview of the approved CPHD/ GCSI funded FY 2023 – 2024 Projects	Brian Crichlow, Cayman Islands	20 mins	PPT	11:15 – 11:35
9.0	CAPACITY BUILDING & REGIONAL INITIATIVES: REPORTS FROM PARTNER ORGANISATIONS AND COLLABORATING AGENCIES ON PLANT HEALTH PROJECTS AND FUTURE PLANNING				
9.1	APHIS GCSI	Dennis Martin, USDA GCSI	15 mins	PPT	11:35 – 11:50
9.2	RPPO Activities	Juliet Goldsmith, CAHFSA	15 mins	PPT	11:50 – 12:05
9.3	CABI	Naitram Ramnanan, CABI, Trinidad and Tobago	15 mins	PPT	12:05 – 12:20
9.4	CARDI	Dionne Clarke Harris, CARDI	15 mins	PPT	12:20 – 12:35
9.5	CIRAD	Catherine ABADIE, CIRAD	20 mins	Virtual PPT	12:35 – 12:55
LUNCH BREAK (1 hour)					
9.6	IICA	Janet Lawrence, IICA	15 mins	PPT	2:00 – 2:15
9.7	OECS	Lench Fevrier, OECS	15 mins	Virtual PPT	2:15 -2:30
9.8	OIRSA	Fermin Fortunato Blanco. OIRSA (BLZ)	15 mins	PPT	2:30 – 2:45
9.9	UWI	Augustus Thomas, UWI	15 mins	PPT	2:45 -3:00
9.10	AGROSAVIA	Mónica Betancourt Vasquez, AGROSAVIA	15 mins	Virtual PPT	3:00- 3:15
9.11	CARCIOM Secretariat	Shaun Baugh, CARICOM Sec	15 mins	PPT	3:15 -3:30
TEA BREAK (10mins)					
10.0	THE GREATER CARIBBEAN SAFEGUARDING INITIATIVE				
10.1	An overview on the revised GCSI Project Structure	Dennis Martin, USDA GCSI	15 mins	PPT	3:40 -3:55
10.2	The “Don’t Pack a Pest’ Public Outreach Initiative – update	Dennis Martin, USDA GCSI	15 mins	PPT	3:55 -4:10
11.0	SPECIAL JOINT TECHNICAL SESSION				
11.1	Emerging Pest Issues and ongoing Pest Exclusion, Management and Safeguarding Activities				

11.1.1	Update on <i>Tuta absoluta</i> detection and management in Trinidad and Tobago	Kishore Ragbir, Trinidad and Tobago	15 mins		4:10 – 4:25
11.1.2	Overview of the Dominica Republic NPPOs Surveillance program	Rosa Lazala, Dominican Republic	15 mins	PPT	4:25 – 4:40
11.1.3	Overview of Jamaica’s newly implemented Facility Accreditation ISO 17020/2012 for Export Inspection and Certification	Damian Rowe, Jamaica	20 mins	PPT	4:40 – 5:00
Day Three: Wednesday 16th August 2023 9:00 am – 6:00pm					
Zoom Link for joining the meeting: https://jica.zoom.us/joining/register/tZEtcOyvgjouGtNaXfH1Cqcbh2zluWThBYTd					
No#	Agenda Item	Presenters / Facilitator	Time (mins)	Document	Times
11.0	SPECIAL JOINT TECHNICAL SESSION CONT.				
11.1	Emerging Pest Issues and ongoing Pest Exclusion, Management and Safeguarding Activities				
11.1.4	The Impact of the CARDI Coconut Project with a focus on the Priority Pest - Red Ring Disease of Coconuts by the nematode <i>Bursaphelenchus cocophilus</i>	Dionne Clarke Harris, CARDI	25 mins	PPT	9:00- 9:25
11.1.5	IDPH 2023 and Look Ahead to 2024	Natsumi YAMADA -IPPC Secretariat	15 mins	Presentation	9:25 – 9:40
11.1.6	IPPC Strategic Framework 2020-2030 Development Agenda Items	Natsumi YAMADA -IPPC Secretariat	15 mins	Presentation	9:40 – 9:55
11.2	Other relevant Plant Health Protection and Production Activities				
11.2.1	Overview of advanced pest diagnostics tools	Gideon Alake, University of Florida	20 mins	PPT	9:55 -10:15
11.2.2	Epidemic intelligence for Plant Health	Emeric Gendron, CIRAD	15 mins	PPT	10: 15 – 10:30
TEA BREAK (15 mins)					
11.2.3	One Health - CIRAD collaborative approaches, concepts, and actions	Jennifer Pradel, CIRAD	15 mins	Video	10:45 – 11:00

11.2.4	Plant Health and Climate Change	Glenn Fowler, USDA APHIS PPQ	15 mins	Virtual PPT	11:00 – 11:15
11.2.5	Dominican Republic NPPO's Trade Facilitation activities - The Export/ import certification system (VUCE) and ePhyto implementation	Rosa Lazala, Dominican Republic	15 mins	PPT	11:15 – 11:30
11.2.6	Overview of the National Plant Health platform in the French Territories	Pauline Farigoule Ministry of Agriculture	15 mins	Virtual PPT	11:30- 11:45
11.2.7	Update on the CABI / IICA Pet and Horticultural Project	Diana Francis, IICA & Nairam Ramanan, CABI	15 mins	Blended	11:45 – 12 Noon
LUNCH (1 hour)					
11.3	International Standards, Guidelines and Trade Issues and Trends				
11.3.1	New IPPC Guides and e-learning courses	Francisco Gutierrez, Belize	20 mins	PPT	1:00 – 1:20
11.3.2	Regulation of wood packaging material in international trade (new IPPC Guide to support implementation of ISPM 15)	Damian Rowe, Jamaica	20 mins	PPT	1:20 – 1:40
11.3.3	e-Commerce Guide for plants, plant products and other regulated articles in international trade	Francisco Gutierrez, Belize IC member	20 mins	PPT	1:40- 2:00
12.0	SPECIAL: TR4 REGIONAL TECHNICAL SESSION 2:00 – 5:00 PM				
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The CPHD Musa TWG and GICSV Musa Working Group Reports – Nelson Laville, Dominica 2. Activities on Fusarium TR4 in the IPPC community - Natsumi Yamada, IPPC 3. Consideration for the importation of Resistant Germplasm – Mónica Betancourt Vasquez, Agrosavia 4. TR4 the Colombia experience - Mónica Betancourt Vasquez, Agrosavia 5. TR4 preparedness in OIRSA countries (incident command and shared experiences in the conduct of simulation exercises), Fermin Blanco García, OIRSA 				
13.0	ANY OTHER BUSINESS				

13.1	Summary of Meeting Recommendation for submission to COTED	Damian Rowe, Jamaica	15 mins		5:00-5:15
13.2	Handover to new CPHD Executive Members	Brian Crichlow, Cayman Islands	10 mins		5:15 -5:30

Participant's Cocktail Reception – 7:00 pm – 9:30 pm

Days 4 and 5 Thursday and Friday 17-18 August 2023

9:00 am – 6:00pm

No	Item	Presenter / Facilitator	Time (min.)	Document
<i>Day 4, morning</i>				
<i>Opening session: (120 minutes)</i>				
1	Opening of the Session		10	
1.1	Welcome remarks: RPPO	Natsumi YAMADA Juliet GOLDSMITH	5 5	
2	Meeting Arrangements		15	
2.1	Election of Chair	Juliet GOLDSMITH	5	
2.2	Election of the Rapporteur	Chair	5	
2.3	Adoption of the Agenda	Chair	5	Doc
3	Administrative Matters	Juliet GOLDSMITH	5	
3.1	Participants list			Doc
4.	Updates on Governance and Strategic issues		30	
4.1	Update from SC	Hernando MORERA GONZALEZ -SC Member	15	PPT
4.2	Update from IC	Francisco GUTIERREZ IC Member	15	PPT

Morning tea break (20 mins)				
5	Section 1: Discuss substantive comments on draft standards and recommendations (this will involve presentations, discussion and questions from workshop's participants)			
5.1	Reorganisation and revision of pest risk analysis standards (2020-001) Priority 1	Hernando MORERA-GONZALEZ SC Member	100	Presentation
5.2	Draft Annex: International movement of mango (<i>Mangifera indica</i>) fruit to ISPM 46 (Commodity-specific standards for phytosanitary measures) (2021-011)	Hernando MORERA-GONZALEZ SC Member	60	Presentation
Lunch (1 hour)				
Day 4, afternoon				
5.3	Draft Annex: Use of systems approaches in managing the pest risks associated with the movement of wood to ISPM39 (International movement of wood) (2015-004)	Rewish SOMAI – Suriname NPPO	60	Presentation
5.4	2022 Amendments to ISPM 5 (Glossary on phytosanitary terms) (1994-001)	Hernando MORERA-GONZALEZ SC Member	60	Presentation
Afternoon tea break (10 mins)				
5.5	Draft Annex: Criteria for evaluation of available information for determining host status of fruit-to-fruit flies to ISPM 37 Determination of host status of fruit to fruit flies (Tephritidae) (2018-011)	Alies	60	Presentation
Day 5, morning				
5.6	CPM Recommendation on sea containers	Hernando	30	Presentation

5.6	2023 First consultation: Draft annex to ISPM 27: Revision of DP 09 - Genus Anastrepha Schiner (2021-002)	Juliet GOLDSMITH TPDP Member	60	Presentation
Morning tea break (20 mins)				
7	Section 3: Moving together from ideas to action (facilitated session) This section will consist of presentations followed by discussion and questions from the participants			
7.5	Draft Specification for new IPPC guide: Audits in the phytosanitary context (2021-009)	Francisco GIC member	20	Doc
8	Conclusion of the workshop/ Date and Venue of the Next Meeting	Chair	5	
9	Online survey of the workshop	All participants	5	
10	Adoption of the Report (Procedure to be decided)	All participants	5	
11	Close of the meeting	Chair	5	

APPENDIX 2: 2023 IPPC REGIONAL WORKSHOP PARTICIPANTS LIST

Country	Name and Role	Official Title and Organization	Contact Information (Address, telephone number, and email address)
Antigua and Barbuda	GORE-FRANCIS, Janil Representative	Chief Plant Protection Officer Plant Protection Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Barbuda Affairs	Upper Corn Alley, St. John's, Antigua, Tel.: +1 (268) 562 2776; Mob.: +1 (268) 764-1255 Email Address: Janil.Gore-Francis@ab.gov.ag
Bahamas	JOHNSON Yasmin Representative	Director of Plant Protection Bahamas Agricultural Health and Food Safety Authority (BAHFSA)	c/o Out Island Traders Building, East Bay Street; Nassau, New Providence Tel No: (242) 604-7004 Mob.: (242) 376-9140 Email Address: yasminjohnson@bahamas.gov.bs
Barbados	Clyde GRIFFITH	Officer-in-Charge, Plant Quarantine Division Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Nutritional Security	Crumpton's Street, Bridgetown, St. Michael, Barbados Tel.: 246-535-6601 /246-535- 6600 Mob.: 246-832-2526 Email Address: cigriffith@agriculture.gov.bb
Belize	Francisco GUTIERREZ Representative IC Representative	Technical Director, Plant Health Belize Agricultural Health Authority (BAHA)	Central Farm, Cayo District, Belize Tel.: 501-824-4872 Mob.: 501-604-0319 Email: Francisco.gutierrez@baha.org.bz
Dominica	Nelson LAVILLE Representative	Head, Plant Protection and Quarantine Ministry of Blue Economy, Agriculture and National Food security	Botanic Gardens, Roseau Tel No (767) 266-3803 (m) Email Address: lavillen@dominica.gov.dm , nelson.laville@gmail.com
Grenada	Thaddeaus PETERS Representative	Pest Management Officer Ministry of Agriculture, Lands, Forestry, Fisheries and Cooperatives Pest Management Unit	Botanical Gardens, Tanteen St. George's Grenada Tel.: 1473 44 00019 Mob.: 1473 417 2398 Email Address: thaddeauspeters@gmail.com
Guyana	Brian SEARS Representative	Chief Plant Protection Officer Ministry of Agriculture/National Agricultural Research and Extension Institute (NAREI)	Agriculture Road, Mon Repos East Coast Demerara, Guyana Tel.: 592-5858 Mob.: 592 699 0479

Country	Name and Role	Official Title and Organization	Contact Information (Address, telephone number, and email address)
			Email Address: nppogy@gmail.com
Haiti	JASSON Innovil	Plant Health Assistant Director Ministry of Agriculture	Route Nationale #1, Damien. Port-au-Prince, Haiti Tel.: (509) 40096875 Mob.: (509) 3848-6946 Email Address: innoviljasson@outlook.com
Jamaica	BARRETT CHRISTIE Karen Representative	Entomologist/ Identifier Plant Quarantine / Ministry of Agriculture Jamaica	193 Old Hope Road, Kingston 6, St. Andrew, Jamaica WI Tel.: +1 876 4418986 or +1 876 9248906 Email Address: Karen.christie@moa.gov.jm
Jamaica	Damian ROWE Alternate	Senior Plant Quarantine Officer Plant Quarantine / Ministry of Agriculture Jamaica	193 Old Hope Road, Kingston 6, St. Andrew, Jamaica Tel.: 876 -977-6401 Email Address: damian.rowe@moa.gov.jm
St. Lucia	Hannah ROMAIN Representative	Chief Plant Research Officer Plant Research and Development Division Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries, Food Security and Rural Development	National Agricultural Diagnostic Facility, Union Tel No: 1-758-468-5601 Mob.: 1-758-725-6335 Email Address: hannah.romain@govt.lc
St Vincent and the Grenadines	Michael DELPECHE	Agricultural Officer Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Fisheries, Rural Transformation, Industry and Labour	Akers, St Vincent and the Grenadines Tel.: 784 4571283 Mob.: 784 5284171 Email Address: michaeldelpeche@yahoo.com
Suriname	Rewish SOMAI	Consultant NPPO Suriname	Letitia Vriesdelaan # 10 Mob.: (+597) 841-4965 Email Address: rewish@gmail.com
Trinidad and Tobago	Kishore RAGBIR		Tel No: Email Address:
St. Kitts and Nevis	Kadian BANTON	Extension Officer Department of Agriculture	Tel: (869) 4671841 Mob: (869) 6680000 Email: Kadian.banton@gov.kn

Country	Name and Role	Official Title and Organization	Contact Information <i>(Address, telephone number, and email address)</i>
		The Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries, Marine Resources and Cooperatives	
Standards Committee (S.C.) Member	MORERA GONZÁLEZ Hernando		Pest Risk Analysis Unit State Phytosanitary Service Costa Rica Email: hmorera@sfe.go.cr
IPPC	Natsumi YAMADA	Agricultural Officer International Plant Protection Convention Secretariat Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations.	Viale delle Terme di Caracalla, 00153 Rome, Italy Email: Natsumi.Yamada@fao.org
CAHFSA (Suriname)	GOLDSMITH, Juliet	Plant Health Specialist Caribbean Agricultural Health and Food Safety Agency (CAHFSA)/RPPO (Caribbean)	Letitia Vreisdelaan #10, Paramaribo Tel No: (597) 725-2922 Email Address: juliet.goldsmith@cahfsa.org
CAHFSA	PETERS, Gavin	Chief Executive Officer Caribbean Agricultural Health and Food Safety Agency (CAHFSA)/RPPO (Caribbean)	Letitia Vreisdelaan #10, Paramaribo Tel No: (597) 744-4018 Email Address: ceo@cahfsa.org
IICA	LAWRENCE, Janet	Agricultural Health, Food Safety and Quality Specialist – Caribbean AHFS Programme-Caribbean Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture	Manor Lodge, St Michael BARBADOS Tel No: +1 (246) 271 9210-12 Email Address: Janet.lawrence@iica.int

Appendix 3: RECONCILIATION REPORTS – Review of draft standards

1. Reconciliation report for 2021-002_Revision_DP9_Anastrepha_2023-06-

Summary

Title	2023 First consultation: Draft annex to ISPM 27: Revision of DP 09 - Genus <i>Anastrepha</i> Schiner (2021-002) (Id 1437)
Description	
End Date	30 Sep 2023 11:45 PM
Review Status	Completed (2 Oct 2023 10:08 AM)

Participants

Name	Status	Role	Summary	Comments	Last Activity
Caribbean Agricultural Health and Food Safety Agency Σ	Not Started	Reviewer		4	

T (Type) - B = Bullet, C = Comment, P = Proposed Change, R = Rating

S (Status) - A = Accepted, C = Closed, O = Open, W = Withdrawn, M = Merged

Para	Text	T	Comment	S	Author Comment
G	(General Comment)	C	<i>Category : EDITORIAL</i> (149) Caribbean Agricultural Health and Food Safety Agency (25 Sep 2023 9:40 PM) Guyana supports the revision of this draft annex	O	
G	(General Comment)	C	<i>Category : SUBSTANTIVE</i> (148) Caribbean Agricultural Health and Food Safety Agency (25 Sep 2023 9:40 PM) Barbados finds this to be a very comprehensive review of this diagnostic protocol and supports its adoption.	O	
G	(General Comment)	C	<i>Category : TECHNICAL</i> (147) Caribbean Agricultural Health and Food Safety Agency (25 Sep 2023 9:40 PM) The standard is highly technical and important to the Caribbean region as <i>Anastrepha</i> spp. is most common within the region.	O	

Adoption

46	The revision of this diagnostic protocol was adopted by the Standards Committee on behalf of the Commission on Phytosanitary Measures in [Month 20--]. [to be completed after adoption]	C	<i>Category : SUBSTANTIVE</i> (146) Caribbean Agricultural Health and Food Safety Agency (25 Sep 2023 9:40 PM) The Bahamas offers no objections to the adoption of the revision of this diagnostic protocol on Genus <i>Anastrepha</i> .	O	
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2 Reconciliation report for 2015-004_Draft_Annex_ISPM39_en.DOCX

Summary

Title	2023 First consultation: Draft annex to ISPM 39 (International movement of wood) 2015-004 (Id 1448)
Description	
End Date	30 Sep 2023 11:45 PM
Review Status	Completed (2 Oct 2023 10:09 AM)

Participants

Name	Status	Role	Summary	Comments	Last Activity
Caribbean Agricultural Health and Food Safety Agency Σ	Not Started	Reviewer		9	

T (Type) - B = Bullet, C = Comment, P = Proposed Change, R = Rating
S (Status) - A = Accepted, C = Closed, O = Open, W = Withdrawn, M = Merged

Para	Text	T	Comment	S	Author Comment
2. Practices employed along a wood-commodities production chain for consideration when developing a systems approach					
38	The NPPO of an importing country may decide to approve, when applicable and feasible, the use of some of the practices described in Table 1 as post-import-pre-import measures. In addition, practices that are specific to the post-import part of the production chain may be employed (Table 2).	P	Category : TECHNICAL (680) Caribbean Agricultural Health and Food Safety Agency (25 Sep 2023 9:26 PM)	O	
43	Site selection	C	Category : SUBSTANTIVE (681) Caribbean Agricultural Health and Food Safety Agency (25 Sep 2023 9:26 PM) Not practical for a systems approach for a long-term commodity.	O	
45	Species selection	C	Category : SUBSTANTIVE (682) Caribbean Agricultural Health and Food Safety Agency (25 Sep 2023 9:26 PM) See previous comments on site selection	O	
47	Drainage	P	Category : SUBSTANTIVE (683) Caribbean Agricultural Health and Food Safety Agency (25 Sep 2023 9:26 PM) See previous comments on site selection	O	
50	Pest risk can be reduced by establishing trees from-in pest free areas or areas of low pest prevalence as described in ISPM 4 (<i>Requirements for the establishment of pest free areas</i>) ISPM 22 (<i>Requirements for the establishment of areas of low pest prevalence</i>) and ISPM 8 (<i>Determination of pest status in an area</i>).	P	Category : EDITORIAL (684) Caribbean Agricultural Health and Food Safety Agency (25 Sep 2023 9:26 PM)	O	
148	The choice of transport route may be influenced by the known distribution and phenology of pests associated	P	Category : SUBSTANTIVE (685) Caribbean	O	

	with the wood commodities being transported and the weather and climatic conditions during transit transport .		Agricultural Health and Food Safety Agency (25 Sep 2023 9:26 PM)		
150	The inside and outside of containers may should be cleaned after unloading or before reloading to reduce the likelihood of pests from previous cargoes infesting wood commodities.	P	<i>Category SUBSTANTIVE (686)</i> Caribbean Agricultural Health and Food Safety Agency (25 Sep 2023 9:26 PM) Consistent with the CPM recommendations on sea container	:	O
154	Storage-Retention in an importing country	P	<i>Category SUBSTANTIVE (687)</i> Caribbean Agricultural Health and Food Safety Agency (25 Sep 2023 9:26 PM)	:	O
155	If agreed by the importing country, a systems approach may include provisions for wood-commodity storage that are designed to prevent quarantine pest escape, infestation, and contamination of storage areas.	P	<i>Category SUBSTANTIVE (688)</i> Caribbean Agricultural Health and Food Safety Agency (25 Sep 2023 9:26 PM)	:	O

3 Reconciliation report for 2021-011_Draft_ISPM_Annex_ISPM46_Mango_en.docx (

Summary

Title	2023 First consultation: Draft annex to ISPM 46: International movement of Mangifera indica fruit (2021-011) (Id 1447)
Description	
End Date	30 Sep 2023 11:45 PM
Review Status	Completed (2 Oct 2023 10:09 AM)

Participants

Name	Status	Role	Summary	Comments	Last Activity
Caribbean Agricultural Health and Food Safety Agency Σ	Not Started	Reviewer		5	

T (Type) - B = Bullet, C = Comment, P = Proposed Change, R = Rating

S (Status) - A = Accepted, C = Closed, O = Open, W = Withdrawn, M = Merged

Para	Text	T	Comment	S	Author Comment
G	(General Comment)	C	<i>Category SUBSTANTIVE (496)</i> Caribbean Agricultural Health and Food Safety Agency (25 Sep 2023 9:28 PM) Barbados supports the adoption of this annex since it provides the necessary reference point of phytosanitary	:	O

			measures that may be employed in the treatment of Mangoes.		
G	(General Comment)	C	<i>Category : TECHNICAL (495)</i> Caribbean Agricultural Health and Food Safety Agency (25 Sep 2023 9:28 PM) The annex is important for countries involved in the trade of mango.	O	
1	DRAFT ANNEX TO ISPM 46: International movement of fresh <i>Mangifera indica</i> fruit (2021-011)	C	<i>Category : EDITORIAL (493)</i> Caribbean Agricultural Health and Food Safety Agency (25 Sep 2023 9:28 PM) Guyana agrees that this draft annex to ISPM 46 is important and welcomes its review.	O	
1	DRAFT ANNEX TO ISPM 46: International movement of fresh <i>Mangifera indica</i> fruit (2021-011)	C	<i>Category : SUBSTANTIVE (492)</i> Caribbean Agricultural Health and Food Safety Agency (25 Sep 2023 9:28 PM) The Bahamas supports the adoption of the Draft Annex to ISPM 46 on the international movement of fresh mango fruit.	O	
1. Scope					
30	This commodity standard clearly describes the commodity (including, when relevant, the botanical name and part of the plant as well as its intended use) for which a list of associated pests and related options for phytosanitary measures are identified.	P	<i>Category : EDITORIAL (494)</i> Caribbean Agricultural Health and Food Safety Agency (25 Sep 2023 9:28 PM) Unnecessary text as this standard is for one commodity	O	

4 Reconciliation report for CPM_Recommendation_Sea_Containers_En.docx (CPM_Recommendation_Sea_Containers_En.docx)

Summary

Title	2023 First consultation: Draft CPM Recommendation: CPM Recommendation on sea containers (Id 1440)
Description	
End Date	30 Sep 2023 11:45 PM
Review Status	Completed (2 Oct 2023 10:10 AM)

Participants

Name	Status	Role	Summary	Comments	Last Activity
Caribbean Agricultural	Not Started	Reviewer		10	

Health and Food Safety Agency Σ					
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T (Type) - B = Bullet, C = Comment, P = Proposed Change, R = Rating
S (Status) - A = Accepted, C = Closed, O = Open, W = Withdrawn, M = Merged

Para	Text	T	Comment	S	Author Comment
G	(General Comment)	C	<i>Category : TECHNICAL</i> (371) Caribbean Agricultural Health and Food Safety Agency (25 Sep 2023 9:38 PM) St Lucia endorses these recommendations on sea containers.	O	
G	(General Comment)	C	<i>Category : SUBSTANTIVE</i> (370) Caribbean Agricultural Health and Food Safety Agency (25 Sep 2023 9:38 PM) Guyana welcomes the CPM recommendations on sea containers.	O	
G	(General Comment)	C	<i>Category : SUBSTANTIVE</i> (369) Caribbean Agricultural Health and Food Safety Agency (25 Sep 2023 9:38 PM) Barbados agrees with this recommendation since this pathway (cargo containers) is one that is of great importance worldwide.	O	

RISKS RELATED TO EMPTY CONTAINERS

41	RISKS RELATED TO EMPTY CONTAINERS	C	<i>Category : EDITORIAL</i> (362) Caribbean Agricultural Health and Food Safety Agency (25 Sep 2023 9:38 PM) The Bahamas notes that the only risks/contributing factors to container contamination mentioned in this paragraph are incomplete unpacking and cleaning. There also only appears to be recommendations on what can/should be done to reduce risks. Can the risks related to empty containers be elaborated further? and or consider renaming this section: Risk Reduction/Risk Mitigation for Empty Containers.	O	
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RECOMMENDATION: REDUCING THE RISK OF CONTAMINATION OF SEA CONTAINERS AND THEIR CARGOES

61	All parties involved in container supply chains should ensure that appropriate steps are taken to prevent contamination of containers and their cargoes. This may involve actions such as handling, locating and storing containers and cargoes in accordance with any available best practices to avoid contamination from pest habitats or pest populations (the distance will <u>will</u> depend on the pest). Such best practices may include:	P	<i>Category : SUBSTANTIVE</i> (363) Caribbean Agricultural Health and Food Safety Agency (25 Sep 2023 9:38 PM)	O	
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RECOMMENDATION: METHODS TO REMOVE CONTAMINATION

75	Removal of contaminants from ventilation inlet grilles and floor drain holes	C	<p><i>Category : EDITORIAL</i> (364) Caribbean Agricultural Health and Food Safety Agency (25 Sep 2023 9:38 PM) - Fumigation Can fumigation be considered as an option for removing contamination? The Bahamas is of the opinion that the methods listed are effective in removing debris and larger organisms, but smaller pests, eggs and pathogens may be difficult to spot or remove.</p>	O	
79	Methods for the safe <u>treatment and</u> disposal of contamination should be sufficient to prevent spread of pests and may include:	P	<p><i>Category : SUBSTANTIVE</i> (365) Caribbean Agricultural Health and Food Safety Agency (25 Sep 2023 9:38 PM)</p>	O	
84	freezing <u>-Autoclaving</u> <u>-Chemical treatments</u>	P	<p><i>Category : SUBSTANTIVE</i> (367) Caribbean Agricultural Health and Food Safety Agency (25 Sep 2023 9:38 PM)</p>	O	
84	freezing	C	<p><i>Category : EDITORIAL</i> (366) Caribbean Agricultural Health and Food Safety Agency (25 Sep 2023 9:38 PM) Freezing like fumigation will kill the contaminant/organism that would have to be disposed of thereafter. Can some insight be given on why this method of disposal was considered?</p>	O	
RECOMMENDATION: INPUT FOR EFFECTIVE MEASURES AND BEST PRACTICES					
90	CPM 18 <u>in 2024</u> is expected to take <u>make</u> key decisions on longer-term guidance on minimizing the risks associated with the international sea container pathway and the Focus Group on Sea Containers is working in the interim to develop recommendations for such prospective guidance. As such, proposals for industry- or government-led solutions that would contribute to risk management, and suggestions for practicable measures and activities that may be effective if widely adopted, would be welcomed by the Focus Group on Sea Containers. In addition, information on emerging technologies that may assist with pest risk management would be of	P	<p><i>Category : SUBSTANTIVE</i> (368) Caribbean Agricultural Health and Food Safety Agency (25 Sep 2023 9:38 PM)</p>	O	

	value for the Focus Group's considerations.			
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5 Reconciliation report for 2020-001_Draft ISPM_PRA_en.docx (2020-001_Draft ISPM_PRA_en.docx)

Summary

Title	2023 First consultation: Reorganization and revision of pest risk analysis standards (2020-001) (Id 1452)
Description	
End Date	30 Sep 2023 11:45 PM
Review Status	Completed (2 Oct 2023 10:10 AM)

Participants

Name	Status	Role	Summary	Comments	Last Activity
Caribbean Agricultural Health and Food Safety Agency Σ	Not Started	Reviewer		10	

T (Type) - B = Bullet, C = Comment, P = Proposed Change, R = Rating

S (Status) - A = Accepted, C = Closed, O = Open, W = Withdrawn, M = Merged

Para	Text	T	Comment	S	Author Comment
G	(General Comment)	C	Category : <i>SUBSTANTIVE</i> (1090) Caribbean Agricultural Health and Food Safety Agency (25 Sep 2023 9:33 PM) Guyana supports the reorganization and revision of the Pest Risk Analysis Standard	O	
G	(General Comment)	C	Category : <i>SUBSTANTIVE</i> (1089) Caribbean Agricultural Health and Food Safety Agency (25 Sep 2023 9:33 PM) 1. Supports the reorganization of the standard but does not believe that the annexes should be separated as they are parts of a single process. 2. Recommends the development of an additional annex on PRA for beneficial organisms	O	
G	(General Comment)	C	Category : <i>TECHNICAL</i> (1088) Caribbean Agricultural Health and Food Safety Agency (25 Sep 2023 9:33 PM) St Lucia endorses the changes made to the standard.	O	
G	(General Comment)	C	Category : <i>SUBSTANTIVE</i>	O	

			(1087) Caribbean Agricultural Health and Food Safety Agency (25 Sep 2023 9:33 PM) Barbados supports the reorganization and revision of the standard. The fact that it seeks to harmonise the existing standards that speak to PRA is justifiable given that all elements of this important activity should be found in the same place.		
G	(General Comment)	C	Category : EDITORIAL (1086) Caribbean Agricultural Health and Food Safety Agency (25 Sep 2023 9:33 PM) The proposed reorganization of this standard is quite useful.	O	
BACKGROUND					
79	The The basic principles of necessity, managed risk, minimal impact, transparency harmonization, non-discrimination, technical justification, cooperation, and equivalence, as described in ISPM 1 (<i>Phytosanitary principles for the protection of plants and the application of phytosanitary measures in international trade</i>) and the World Trade Organization Agreement on the Application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures (SPS Agreement) (WTO, 1994), are all essential considerations in pest risk analysis.	P	Category : SUBSTANTIVE (1081) Caribbean Agricultural Health and Food Safety Agency (25 Sep 2023 9:33 PM) Consistency with ISPM 1	O	
1. Framework for PRA					
88	Stage 1 (Initiation) The PRA process is initiated in Stage 1, which involves identifying the pest (or pests) and pathways that are of potential concern and that should be considered for pest risk assessment in relation to the identified PRA area. If no pests are identified in this stage, the analysis may stop.	P	Category : EDITORIAL (1083) Caribbean Agricultural Health and Food Safety Agency (25 Sep 2023 9:33 PM) For consistency with the following para	O	
88	The PRA process is initiated in Stage 1, which involves identifying the pest (or pests) and pathways that are of potential concern and that should be considered for pest risk assessment in relation to the identified PRA area. If no pests are identified in this stage, the analysis may stop.	C	Category : EDITORIAL (1082) Caribbean Agricultural Health and Food Safety Agency (25 Sep 2023 9:33 PM) Begin with stage 1 (initiation) for consistency.	O	
1. Introduction					
610	Phytosanitary measures are not justified if the pest risk is deemed to be acceptable or if they are not feasible, such as in the case of natural spread. Even in such cases, however, contracting parties may decide to maintain some monitoring or audit	P	Category : SUBSTANTIVE (1084) Caribbean Agricultural Health and Food Safety Agency (25 Sep 2023	O	

	and evaluation regarding the pest risk to detect future changes in that risk.		9:33 PM) Audit in the phytosanitary sense carries a different connotation		
4.5.6 Other options relevant for all steps					
693	biological control.	P	<i>Category</i> : SUBSTANTIVE (1085) Caribbean Agricultural Health and Food Safety Agency (25 Sep 2023 9:33 PM) Already included in 4.1.2 and not applicable	O	

6 Reconciliation report for 1994-001_Draft 2022_Amends_ISPM5_2023-06-29.docx (1994-001_Draft 2022_Amends_ISPM5_2023-06-29.docx)

Summary

Title	2023 Second consultation- Draft 2022 Amendments to ISPM 5 (1994-001) (Id 1446)
Description	
End Date	30 Sep 2023 11:45 PM
Review Status	Completed (2 Oct 2023 10:13 AM)

Participants

Name	Status	Role	Summary	Comments	Last Activity
Caribbean Agricultural Health and Food Safety Agency Σ	Not Started	Reviewer		7	

T (Type) - B = Bullet, C = Comment, P = Proposed Change, R = Rating

S (Status) - A = Accepted, C = Closed, O = Open, W = Withdrawn, M = Merged

Para	Text	T	Comment	S	Author Comment
G	(General Comment)	C	<i>Category</i> : EDITORIAL (68) Caribbean Agricultural Health and Food Safety Agency (25 Sep 2023 9:35 PM) Guyana has no objection to the draft amendments to ISPM 5.	O	
G	(General Comment)	C	<i>Category</i> : TECHNICAL (67) Caribbean Agricultural Health and Food Safety Agency (25 Sep 2023 9:35 PM) St Lucia has no objections.	O	
G	(General Comment)	C	<i>Category</i> : TECHNICAL (66) Caribbean Agricultural Health and Food Safety Agency (25 Sep 2023 9:35 PM) St. Vincent and the Grenadines is in general agreement with the proposed definitions.	O	

Proposed addition					
47	A process whereby information on pests in an area is obtained through various sources other than surveys .	C	Category SUBSTANTIVE (62) Caribbean Agricultural Health and Food Safety Agency (25 Sep 2023 9:35 PM)	:	O
Barbados agrees with the addition					
Current definition					
77	An official process whereby information on pests in an area is obtained through general surveillance, specific surveillance or a combination of both which collects and records data on pest presence or absence by survey, monitoring or other procedures	C	Category SUBSTANTIVE (63) Caribbean Agricultural Health and Food Safety Agency (25 Sep 2023 9:35 PM)	:	O
Barbados agrees with the proposed revision.					
2.2.1 "phytosanitary action" (2020-006)					
108	An official operation, such as inspection, testing, surveillance or treatment , undertaken with reference to a phytosanitary procedure , to implement phytosanitary measures or to enable phytosanitary certification	C	Category SUBSTANTIVE (64) Caribbean Agricultural Health and Food Safety Agency (25 Sep 2023 9:35 PM)	:	O
Barbados agrees to the proposed revision.					
2.2.2 "phytosanitary procedure" (2020-007)					
125	Any official method on how to perform a phytosanitary action for implementing phytosanitary measures including the performance of inspections, tests, surveillance or treatments in connection with regulated pests	C	Category SUBSTANTIVE (65) Caribbean Agricultural Health and Food Safety Agency (25 Sep 2023 9:35 PM)	:	O
Barbados agrees to the proposed revision					

7 Reconciliation report for 2018-011_Draft_Annex_ISPM37_2023-06-

Summary

Title	2023 Second consultation: Draft Annex to to ISPM 37 (2018-011) (Id 1442)
Description	
End Date	30 Sep 2023 11:45 PM
Review Status	Completed (2 Oct 2023 10:16 AM)

Participants

Name	Status	Role	Summary	Comments	Last Activity
Caribbean Agricultural Health and Food Safety Agency Σ	Not Started	Reviewer		4	

T (Type) - B = Bullet, C = Comment, P = Proposed Change, R = Rating
S (Status) - A = Accepted, C = Closed, O = Open, W = Withdrawn, M = Merged

Para	Text	T	Comment	S	Author Comment
G	(General Comment)	C	Category SUBSTANTIVE	:	O

			<p>(161) Caribbean Agricultural Health and Food Safety Agency (25 Sep 2023 9:36 PM) Guyana supports this draft annex to ISPM 37</p>		
G	(General Comment)	C	<p><i>Category : TECHNICAL</i> (160) Caribbean Agricultural Health and Food Safety Agency (25 Sep 2023 9:36 PM) The draft criteria will provide a suitable guide in determining host status.</p>	O	
G	(General Comment)	C	<p><i>Category : SUBSTANTIVE</i> (159) Caribbean Agricultural Health and Food Safety Agency (25 Sep 2023 9:36 PM) Barbados considers this annex to be a good document which will complement the current standard nicely.</p>	O	
<p>DRAFT ANNEX TO ISPM 37: Criteria for evaluation of available information for determining host status of fruit to fruit flies (<i>Tephritidae</i>) (2018-011)</p>					
1	<p>DRAFT ANNEX TO ISPM 37: Criteria for evaluation of available information for determining host status of fruit to fruit flies (<i>Tephritidae</i>) (2018-011)</p>	C	<p><i>Category : SUBSTANTIVE</i> (158) Caribbean Agricultural Health and Food Safety Agency (25 Sep 2023 9:36 PM) The Bahamas offers no objections to the adoption of Draft Annex to ISPM 37 for determining the host status of fruit flies based on the criteria for evaluation of available information.</p>	O	