



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations



International
Plant Protection
Convention

REPORT

Focus Group on Climate Change and Phytosanitary Issues

**Virtual Meeting
11 February 2025**

IPPC Secretariat

Required citation:

IPPC Secretariat. 2025. *Report of the meeting of the Focus Group on Climate Change and Phytosanitary Issues, 11 February 2025*. Rome. Published by FAO on behalf of the Secretariat of the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC).

The designations employed and the presentation of material in this information product do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) concerning the legal or development status of any country, territory, city or area or of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries. The mention of specific companies or products of manufacturers, whether or not these have been patented, does not imply that these have been endorsed or recommended by FAO in preference to others of a similar nature that are not mentioned.

The views expressed in this information product are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect the views or policies of FAO.

© FAO, 2025



Some rights reserved. This work is made available under the Creative Commons Attribution- 4.0 International licence (CC BY 4.0: <https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/legalcode.en>).

Under the terms of this licence, this work may be copied, redistributed and adapted, provided that the work is appropriately cited. In any use of this work, there should be no suggestion that FAO endorses any specific organization, products or services. The use of the FAO logo is not permitted. If a translation of this work is created, it must include the following disclaimer along with the required citation: "This translation was not created by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO). FAO is not responsible for the content or accuracy of this translation. The original English edition shall be the authoritative edition."

Any dispute arising under this licence that cannot be settled amicably shall be referred to arbitration in accordance with the Arbitration Rules of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law (UNCITRAL). The parties shall be bound by any arbitration award rendered as a result of such arbitration as the final adjudication of such a dispute.

Third-party materials. This Creative Commons licence CC BY 4.0 does not apply to non-FAO copyright materials included in this publication. Users wishing to reuse material from this work that is attributed to a third party, such as tables, figures or images, are responsible for determining whether permission is needed for that reuse and for obtaining permission from the copyright holder. The risk of claims resulting from infringement of any third-party-owned component in the work rests solely with the user.

FAO photographs. FAO photographs that may appear in this work are not subject to the above-mentioned Creative Commons licence. Queries for the use of any FAO photographs should be submitted to: photo-library@fao.org.

Sales, rights and licensing. FAO information products are available on the FAO website (www.fao.org/publications) and print copies can be purchased through the distributors listed there. For general enquiries about FAO publications please contact: publications@fao.org. Queries regarding rights and licensing of publications should be submitted to: copyright@fao.org.

CONTENTS

1.	Opening of the meeting.....	4
1.1	Welcome by the IPPC Secretariat.....	4
2.	Meeting arrangements.....	4
2.1	Election of the rapporteur	4
2.2	Adoption of the agenda.....	4
3.	Administrative matters.....	4
4.	Letter to IC – inclusion of climate-change considerations into IPPC Call for Topics ..	5
5.	Continuing discussion on 2025 webinar topics	5
6.	Continuing discussion on factsheets	6
7.	FG-CCPI member updates	7
8.	Any other business.....	8
9.	Date and arrangement of the next meeting	8
10.	Close of the meeting	8
	Appendix 1: Agenda	9
	Appendix 2: Participants List.....	10
	Appendix 3: Documents List	12

1. Opening of the meeting

1.1 Welcome by the IPPC Secretariat

- [1] The virtual meeting of the Commission on Phytosanitary Measures (CPM) Focus Group on Climate Change and Phytosanitary Issues (FG-CCPI) was convened by the IPPC Secretariat (hereafter referred to as “the secretariat”).

2. Meeting arrangements

2.1 Election of the rapporteur

- [2] The focus group selected Dominic Eyre (Europe) as rapporteur of the meeting.

2.2 Adoption of the agenda

- [3] The focus group adopted the agenda (Appendix 1).

3. Administrative matters

- [4] The participant list is presented as Appendix 2 to this report.

- [5] The list of documents had been circulated and is attached to this report as Appendix 3.

- [6] Reviewing the previous action items, the focus group noted the *outstanding* items under action item 6 (2025 Webinar topics) of the January report:

- [7] The secretariat had previously agreed to:

- 1) *organize* an initial meeting with FAO PSU, FG-CCPI chair and focus group member from FAO OCB, to determine potential synergies and opportunities for collaboration and support (related to action plan item 4.5);
- 2) *reach out* to the wider secretariat team for further information regarding the legal aspects of the interpretation of the role of climate change in PRA; and
- 3) *reach out* to their contacts at CGIAR for referrals to pest management experts.

- [8] The chairperson had previously agreed to:

- 1) *contact* the International Organization for Biological Control (IOBC) for a potential presentation on biocontrol and climate change during the 2025 Webinar Series, and wider collaboration with the organization; and
- 2) *contact* pest outbreak and response systems (POARS) colleagues regarding programme activities related to surveillance and climate change.

- [9] The focus group had previously agreed to:

- 1) *share* the *Xylella fastidiosa* extension materials produced by the NENA region among focus group members, in addition to Oman’s quarantine list (to be actioned by the focus member from the NENA region);
- 2) *review* CABI knowledge products (including factsheets) for the inclusion of climate change components (item 5.1 – to be actioned by the focus member from the Africa region); and
- 3) *share* the FAO OCB mapping document of economic loss and damage with the focus group in February/March 2025, once confirmed (item 5.2 – to be actioned by the FAO OCB member).

- [10] The focus group noted that the materials on *Xylella fastidiosa* by the NENA region would be shared with the focus group once complete, and the FAO OCB mapping document would be shared with the focus group at the end of March, once confirmed. A review of CABI knowledge products would be reviewed again in the March meeting.

- [11] A previous action item related to the presentation of FG-CCPI work at the latest European Plant Protection Organization (EPPO) meeting, is presented under European regional updates at agenda item 7 (FG-CCPI Member updates).
- [12] All other action items had been resolved.

4. Letter to IC – inclusion of climate-change considerations into IPPC Call for Topics

- [13] The chairperson noted that a letter had been sent to the Implementation and Capacity Development Committee (IC) by the IC lead member for the focus group (and later shared with the group – attached in the agenda and documents list), requesting that the IC include climate-change considerations into the IPPC Call for Topics. This forms part of the focus group's wider efforts to support countries in collecting, analysing and using climate change impacts-related information in decision-making.
- [14] One focus group member noted the uncertainty of being able to add climate-change considerations to the IPPC Call for Topics, as this is usually pre-decided by national plant protection organizations (NPPOs).

Related action points for agenda item 4

- [15] The chairperson agreed to:
- 1) *share* the letter to the IC for the inclusion of climate-change considerations into the IPPC Call for Topics with focus group members.

5. Continuing discussion on 2025 webinar topics

- [16] The focus group continued discussions on the selected topics for the 2025 Webinar Series. The group reiterated the importance of stressing climate change within the presentations, and limiting similar introductions across each webinar, for timekeeping.
- [17] **First webinar on pest risk analysis.** The group decided to host two webinars with three speakers for each (holding six talks in total). The first webinar was proposed to discuss issues on pest risk analysis (PRA): climate change in pest risk assessment (with Maria Chiara ROSACE as potential speaker); PRA and modelling (with Juha TUOMOLA or Salla HANNUNEN as potential speakers); commodity risk assessment and PRA (with Roel POTTING as potential speaker); and the legal aspects of the interpretation of the role of climate change in pest risk analysis (related to the joint standard of ISPM 2 and 11) (with an expert from the World Trade Organization as a potential speaker).
- [18] The chair suggested to reach out colleagues at the European Food Safety Agency (EFSA) Panel for their involvement in this first webinar.
- [19] **Second webinar on surveillance.** The second webinar was proposed to discuss issues on surveillance, including: pest surveillance methods and reporting of surveillance data, *Xylella fastidiosa* (looking at Italy as an example) and citrus greening (looking at Brazil as an example); pest management (with an expert from IPPC's pest outbreak and alert response systems (POARS) as a potential speaker); and biocontrol. Biocontrol would discuss both use and regulation (with Lakpo Koku AGBOYI of CABI as a potential speaker) and biocontrol and international pest management (IPM) (with a potential speaker from FAO NSP).
- [20] The focus group discussed the recent work on *Xylella fastidiosa* by the organization, CIHEAM Bari, with links to surveillance and climate change, and noted further work in Brazil related to epidemiology on greening, environmental effects, and vector and transference of the disease. The focus group sought further resources on the topic. The focus group also sought further clarification regarding the links between surveillance and climate change and proposed to introduce the surveillance webinar with an introduction on and climate sensitivities. The focus group asked the secretariat for relevant contacts within the Consortium of International Agricultural Research Centers (CGIAR).

[21] The focus group also discussed the links between climate change and the regulation of pests, under the theme of biocontrol. Focus group members noted that this second webinar would require further discussion at the subsequent March focus group meeting.

[22] Further comments on the draft topics can be seen within the file, “Webinar ideas 2025”.

Related action points for agenda item 5

[23] The focus group agreed to:

- 2) *host* two webinars, with a total of six presentations; and
- 3) *find* further resources (materials and potential speakers) regarding the webinar for surveillance, noting climate change links with *Xylella fastidiosa* and greening (for the action of the focus group member from the NENA region), and links with POARS (for the action of the chairperson).

[24] The secretariat tentatively agreed to:¹

- 4) *contact* CGIAR colleagues for further input regarding “surveillance” webinar topic (an outstanding action item from the previous month); and
- 5) *gather* further information from FAO Plant Production and Protection Division (NSP) colleagues with regards to the potential webinar element on biocontrol and IPM.

[25] The chairperson agreed to:

- 6) *contact* the EFSA panel to gauge interest in their involvement in the first webinar on pest risk analysis.

6. Continuing discussion on factsheets

[26] The focus group continued discussions on the production of five (5) proposed factsheets to be developed within the focus group.

[27] Following discussions from the January 2025 FG-CCPI meeting, three of the focus group members confirmed working on draft factsheets for *Xylella fastidiosa*, Fall Armyworm, and the guava fruit fly. The factsheets for *Xylella fastidiosa* and fruit fly were shared virtually to the group during the meeting.

[28] The focus group discussed the need to include detailed, technical text within the factsheet, while retaining overall brevity and readability. The need to include relevant images, infographics, figures and/or maps was also proposed.

[29] One focus group member also discussed the use of CABI Digital Library for the use of maps and other information.²

[30] The chairperson made reference to the 2017 IPPC factsheet on *Xylella fastidiosa*³ and sought secretariat guidance on an updated factsheet template.

[31] The focus group also discussed the possibility to include two sections within their factsheets: “links to climate change” and “actions for national plant protection organizations (NPPOs)/what can NPPOs do”.

[32] Noting the absence of several focus group members, the group agreed to hold further discussions around potential factsheets on kudzu and locusts at the next meeting.

¹ The secretariat representative for this meeting was not present and so action items for the secretariat are listed as tentative.

² <https://www.cabidigitallibrary.org/>

³ https://www.ippc.int/static/media/uploads/IPPC_factsheet_Xylella_final.pdf

[33] The chairperson also raised to the group the idea of another factsheet that specifically looks at the impacts of climate change on communities or countries, such as the Cook Islands or Small Island Developing States (SIDS).

Related action points for agenda item 6

[34] The focus group agreed to:

- 7) *continue* developing the factsheets, and provide updates to the focus group at the next meeting in March;
- 8) *request* a (technical) factsheet template from the secretariat to assist members in the development of their respective factsheets;
- 9) *discuss* possible factsheets on kudzu and locusts at the next focus group meeting in March; and
- 10) *discuss* a possible factsheet on the impacts of climate change on communities (or countries) at the next focus group meeting in March.

[35] The secretariat tentatively agreed to:

- 11) *provide* the focus group with a template for factsheet development.

7. FG-CCPI member updates

[36] Members of the focus group gave regional updates of relevance to the focus group.

[37] **Asia.** The focus group member from the region informed the focus group of an upcoming meeting planned by the Government of Nepal (Mount Everest Dialogue), to be held 16 May to 18 May 2025, on the theme of climate change, mountains, and the human future, aligning with the United Nations International Year of Glacier Preservation 2025. The Dialogue will address the critical issue of climate change and its impacts on mountain systems. Heads of State from the governments of India, China and other South Asian countries are expected to participate.

[38] **Europe.** One focus group member from the region provided a summary of a completed action item: the member discussed the success of delivering a presentation on the focus group and its work at the latest European Plant Protection Organization (EPPO) meeting, held 28–30 January 2025 in Paris, France. The member suggested to the focus group that the presentation delivered could be used as a template for future outreach activities.

[39] The focus group discussed wider outreach, including delivering presentations at the meetings of regional plant protection organizations (RPPOs) and meeting with national plant protection organizations (NPPOs) for guidance and assistance.

[40] **North America.** A focus group member from the region informed the group of an expected change in government leader over the coming months, which could impact USDA activities. The member also informed the group of a series of climate hubs across the United States of America that provide assistance and guidance on climate-related aspects across different regions, including for farmers.⁴ The member also informed the group of a global tool for estimating carbon sequestration (COMET-Planner Global) which could be of interest to the group.⁵

Related action points for agenda item 7

[41] The focus group agreed to:

- 12) *research* potential avenues for outreach among their RPPOs, aligning with action plan item 3.1 (to include the topic of “climate change impacts on plant health” into the agenda of all upcoming RPPO meetings and conferences (including annual workshops)).

⁴ International Climate Hub: <https://www.climatehubs.usda.gov/hubs/international>

⁵ <https://comet-planner-global.com/home>

8. Any other business

[42] There was no further business.

9. Date and arrangement of the next meeting

[43] The focus group agreed to hold their next meeting in virtual mode on **Tuesday 25 March 2025**, from 17:00 to 19:00 CET (UTC +1).

[44] The focus group also agreed to hold the subsequent meeting on Tuesday 29 April at 17:00 to 19:00 CET).

10. Close of the meeting

[45] The chairperson thanked the participants for their contributions and closed the meeting.

Appendix 1: Agenda

**COMMISSION ON PHYTOSANITARY MEASURES
FOCUS GROUP ON CLIMATE CHANGE AND PHYTOSANITARY ISSUES**

(Prepared by the IPPC Secretariat)

11 February 2025, 17:00–19:00 (Rome time)

(Last updated 11.02.2025)

Agenda Item		Document no.	Presenter
1.	Opening of the meeting	--	Chairperson
2.	Meeting arrangements		
2.1.	Election of the rapporteur	--	Chairperson
2.2.	Adoption of the agenda	01_FG_CCPI_2025_February_2025_Agenda	Chairperson
3.	Administrative matters		IPPC Secretariat
3.1	Participants list	02_FG_CCPI_2025_February_2025_Participants_List	Chairperson
3.2	Documents list	03_FG_CCPI_2025_February_2025_Documents_List	Chairperson
3.3	Action item review		Chairperson
4.	Letter to IC – inclusion of climate change considerations into IPPC Call for Topics	04 Letter to IPPC Secretariat IC Lead	Secretariat/NGATOKO
5.	Continuing discussion on 2025 webinar topics	05 Team Channel – 06 Webinar ideas 2025	Chairperson
6.	Continuing discussion on factsheets	06 Team Channel – 12 Factsheet ideas	Chairperson
7.	FG-CCPI member updates		Chairperson/All
8.	Any other business	--	Chairperson/IPPC Secretariat
9.	Date and arrangement of the next meeting	--	Chairperson/IPPC Secretariat
10.	Close of the meeting	--	Chairperson

Appendix 2: Participants List**CPM FOCUS GROUP ON CLIMATE CHANGE AND PHYTOSANITARY ISSUES***(Prepared by the IPPC Secretariat)***11 February 2025, 17:00–19:00 (Rome time)****PARTICIPANTS LIST**

A check (✓) in the last column indicates confirmed attendance at the meeting

	FAO Region	Name, Organization, Country	
1	Africa	Ms Hannah SERWAA AKOTO NUAMAH Assistant Director, Plant Protection and Regulatory Services Directorate, Ministry of Food and Agriculture Accra, Ghana	
2	Asia	Mr Bhakta Raj PALIKHE Plant Protection Adviser Nepal Plant Disease and Agro Associates (NPDA) Kathmandu, Nepal	✓
3	Europe (Chairperson)	Mr Dominic EYRE Senior Plant Health Scientist Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) York, UK	✓
4	Europe	Mr Bastian HESS Research Assistant Julius Kühn-Institute, Federal Research Centre for Cultivated Plants (Institute for National and International Plant Health) Braunschweig, Germany	✓
5	Latin America and the Caribbean	Ms Erika MANGILI ANDRÉ Agricultural Inspector Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock Brasilia, Brazil	✓
6	Near East and North Africa	Mr Ali Obaid AL-ADAWI Director of Agriculture Research in North Al Batinah Governorate Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Water Resources, Plant Protection Department Muscat, Oman	✓
7	North America	Ms Karen CASTRO Senior Risk Assessor – Botany Canadian Food Inspection Agency Ottawa, Canada	

8	North America	Mr Glenn FOWLER Risk Analyst USDA APHIS Plant Protection and Quarantine Sacramento, USA	✓
9	Southwest Pacific (Vice-Chairperson and IC representative for FG-CCPI)	Mr Ngatoko NGATOKO Director, Biosecurity Service Ministry of Agriculture Rarotonga, Cook Islands	
10	FAO Office of Climate Change, Environment and Biodiversity (OCB)	Ms Xiaoxiao WANG Natural Resources Officer FAO Office of Climate Change, Environment and Biodiversity Rome, Italy	✓
11	CPM Bureau champion for the FG-CCPI	Mr Samuel BISHOP Plant Health Policy team Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs National Agri-Food Innovation Campus Sand Hutton York, North Yorkshire, UK	

IPPC Secretariat

Name	
Ms Sarah BRUNEL IPPC Officer-in-Charge for daily matters	
Ms Mutya FRIO Communications Specialist	
Ms Emma GIBBS Copy-Editor and Report Writer	✓
Mr Levon RUKAVISHNIKOV Standard Setting Unit Intern	✓

Appendix 3: Documents List**CPM FOCUS GROUP ON CLIMATE CHANGE AND PHYTOSANITARY ISSUES****11 February 2025, 17:00–19:00 (Rome time)****Virtual meeting****DOCUMENTS LIST***(Last updated 11.02.2025)*

DOCUMENT NO.	AGENDA ITEM	DOCUMENT TITLE	DATE POSTED / DISTRIBUTED
01_FG_CCPI_2025_February_Agenda	2.2	Provisional agenda	2025-02-06
02_FG_CCPI_2025_February_Participants_List	3.1	Participants list	2025-02-06
03_FG_CCPI_2025_February_Documents_List	3.2	Documents list	2025-02-06
04 Letter to IPPC Secretariat IC Lead	4	Action Plan 2025–2026	2025-02-12
05 Team Channel – 06 Webinar ideas 2025	5	Webinar Ideas 2025	2025-02-06
06 Team Channel – 12 Factsheet ideas	6	Factsheet Ideas	2025-02-06