

(APP) Phase 2 · Train-the-Trainer workshop 23–27 June 2025 · Mpumalanga, South Africa

Pest Preparedness and Response Planning

Ivan Rwomushana Global Lead – Pest Preparedness, CABI



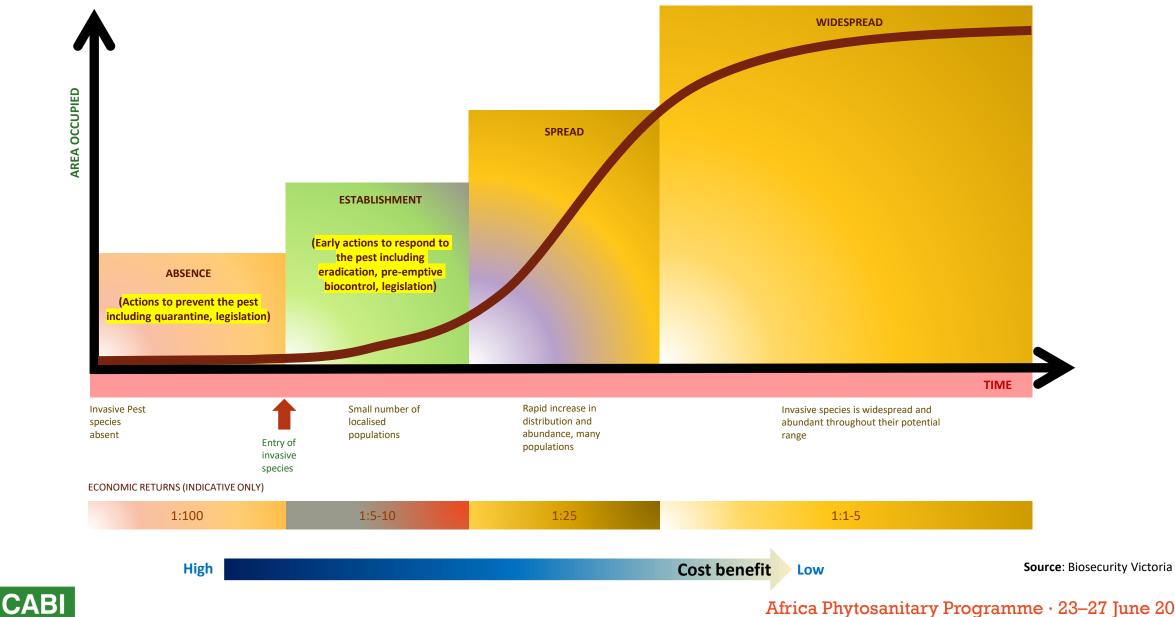
Trends in new pest invasions

- Rapid increases in overseas tourism, imports and exports, travel and new pathways raising the risk of introducing and spreading plant pests
- Climate change also increasing the risk, as the climate of some regions becomes more suitable for the establishment and spread of non-native species
- New trade pathways due to global changes in plant distribution and production
- Outbreaks of plant pests increasingly likely, particularly in Africa





Generalised Pest Invasion Curve



Africa Phytosanitary Programme · 23–27 June 2025

Response Planning

- An essential activity for containment and eradication of quarantine pests and for the effective operation of an NPPO
- Response planning a forward-looking exercise; plans are developed to address specific pests or pest groups that have a high potential for introduction
- Helps is developing an eradication plan that is deemed to be both feasible and necessary, before the pest is found in an area
- Recognized by IPPC, and ISPM 9 (Guidelines for pest eradication programmes)

Papaya mealybug - Paracoccus marginatus





Response Planning

- Response plans provide the opportunity to consider requirements for a response and to prepare for an outbreak by having agreed procedures, roles, responsibilities, budgets etc
- Provides additional time for deliberation, evaluation and research necessary to ensure that the response eg eradication programme, is well designed and can be executed quickly and effectively
- Allows for the actions of cooperating parties to be specified and agreed upon for the prevention and response to the pest

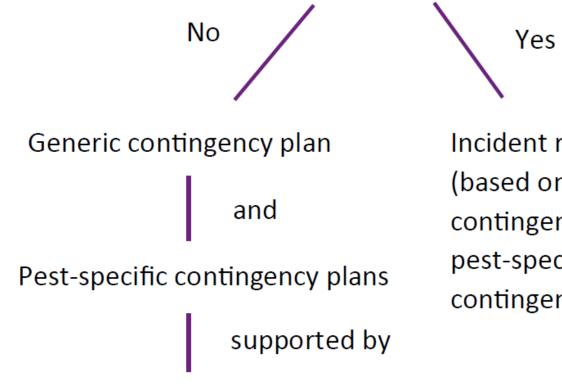
False codling moth - Thaumatotibia leucotreta





Generalized framework for a response plan

Is there an outbreak of a pest?



Standard operating procedures and biosecurity manuals

Incident response plan (based on generic contingency plan and pest-specific contingency plans)



Pest – Specific Response Plans

- Describes how an NPPO and other stakeholders will respond to outbreaks of certain high-risk pests.
- A pest-specific response plan includes;
 - Important summary information on the specific pest and its biology and, in particular, on its introduction, detection and spread, including PRA
 - Pest-specific information for the outbreak management process and coordinated responses

Xylella fastidiosa





Features of a response plan

- **Realistic**: Achievable within a predicted budget
- **Integrated/inclusive**: Utilize the skills and experience across the NPPO and other stakeholders
- **Direct:** the plan should be clear and understandable.
- **Adaptable**: Flexible depending on the situation
- **Concise**: to the point to avoid any confusion
- **Relevant**: Applicable to the outbreak situation

Fall armyworm – Spodoptera frugiperda





Elements of a response plan (A)

- **Describe the biosecurity risks**: identify the high likelihood and high-consequence risks together with an assessment of the capacity and capability needed to manage those risks
- **Describe the public engagement**: how to engage and partner with the entire community with clear articulation of responsibilities
- Collaboration with stakeholders: how responsibilities shall be shared by both government and stakeholders to develop and maintain the capability and capacity to respond to, and to recover from, the biosecurity outbreak

Red Palm Weevil- Rhynchophorus ferrugineus





Elements of a response plan (B)

- Strategies to strengthen response operations: what resources are available and can be deployed in an outbreak, who has the resources and can be leveraged
- **Diagnostics**: capacity and capability to diagnose pests in an outbreak
- Surveillance and response measures: technical surveillance plans and control measures to eradicate and contain pests, e.g. pesticide approvals, inspections, quarantine
- **Capacity building**: training in outbreak response

Fusarium Wilt Tropical Race 4



Elements of a response plan (C)

- **Pest risk communication**: to provide clear accurate and targeted information to the appropriate target audiences
- **Research**: Impact studies, pre-emptive biocontrol etc;
- **Reporting structure to IPPC/AU-IAPSC and RECs**: system for reporting new invasions to trigger the response actions at regional level
- A committee structure in place: for the governance of outbreak preparedness activities; main committee to coordinate outbreak preparedness activities and subgroups for specific actions

Banana bunchy top disease





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Train-the-Trainer workshop

IPPC Secretariat Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) <u>ippc@fao.org | www.ippc.int</u>

Thank you