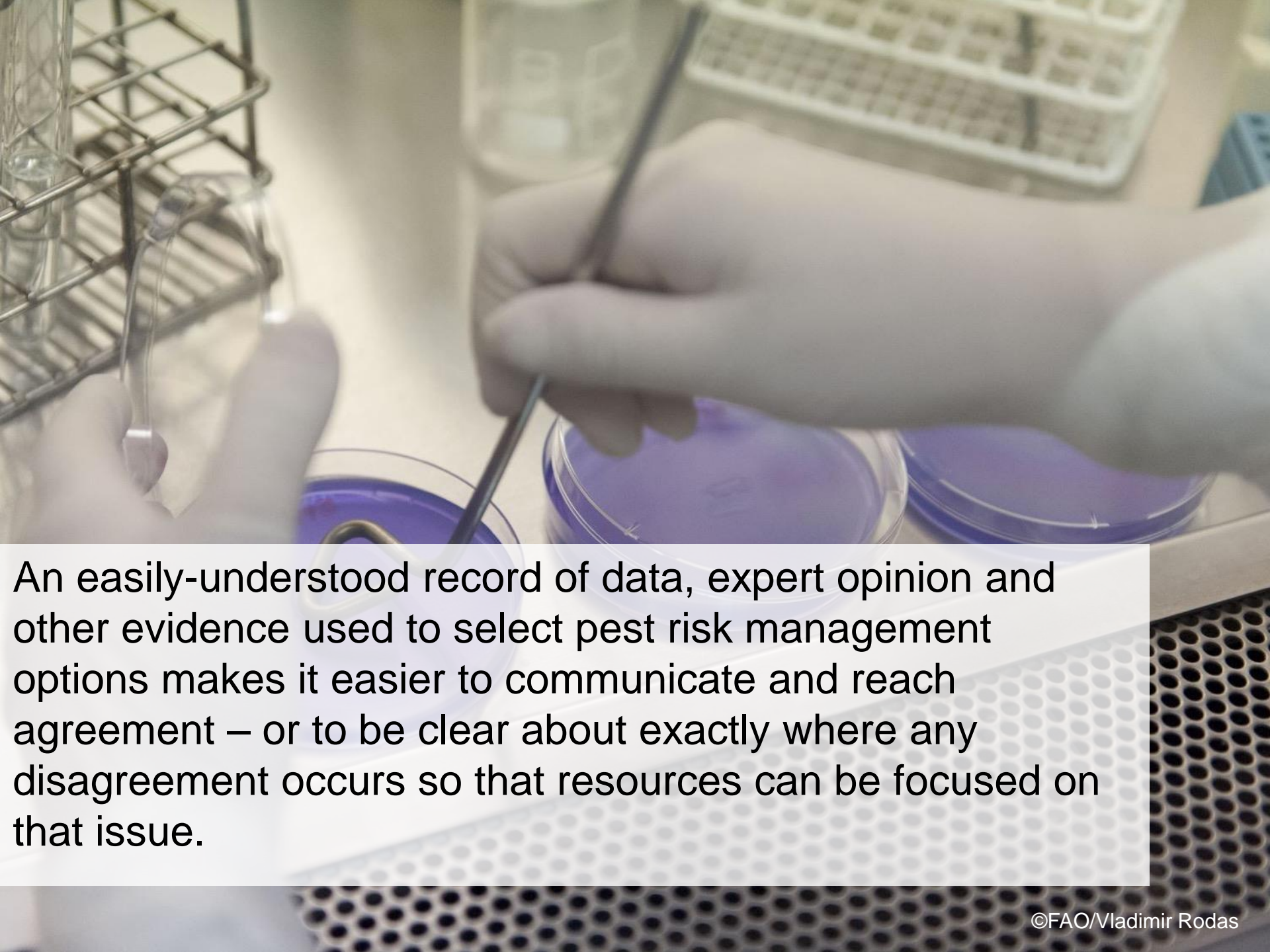




The Systems Approach online tools, developed under the Beyond Compliance project, support the development of pest risk management plans by providing a structure for considering and discussing options along the production or pathway chain.



An easily-understood record of data, expert opinion and other evidence used to select pest risk management options makes it easier to communicate and reach agreement – or to be clear about exactly where any disagreement occurs so that resources can be focused on that issue.





This reduces wasted resources when negotiating a new agreement or when an NPPO returns to a decision, because new information is available, or the pest situation changes.





While the tools do not provide a single 'right' answer, they lay out criteria to consider when choosing the most suitable management options. For example, acceptance of a measure by the farming sector may be key if the proposed option requires cooperation across a large production area.





Which criteria is most important may vary from country to country. If the import requirements are not suitable for an exporting country, however, it is up to the NPPO to propose equivalent measures to reach the required level of protection.





The tools are flexible and may be completed in full or focus in on only part of the production chain or pathway. They may be used to present only official measures, or colour coded to show other activities such as commercial practices.





The tools may be applied from an exporting or importing perspective, including for pathways that may threaten biodiversity in the environment and affect pest status for future exports.