

APEC-ATCWG

Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation, or APEC, is the premier forum for facilitating economic growth, cooperation, trade and investment in the Asia-Pacific region. APEC was established in 1989 to further enhance economic growth and prosperity for the region and to strengthen the Asia-Pacific community.

Since its inception, APEC has worked to reduce tariffs and other trade barriers across the Asia-Pacific region, creating efficient domestic economies and dramatically increasing exports. The 'Bogor Goals' of *free and open trade and investment in the Asia-Pacific by 2010 for industrialised economies and 2020 for developing economies* are the key vision of APEC adopted by Leaders at their 1994 meeting in Bogor, Indonesia.

Free and open trade and investment helps economies to grow, creates jobs and provides greater opportunities for international trade and investment. Free and open trade helps to lower the costs of production and thus reduces the prices of goods and services - a direct benefit to all. In contrast, protectionism keeps prices high and fosters inefficiencies in certain industries.

APEC also works to create an environment for the safe and efficient movement of goods, services and people across borders in the region through policy alignment and economic and technical cooperation.

APEC Working Groups are made up of experts from each APEC Member Economy and work in specific sectors as directed by APEC Economic Leaders, Ministers, and Senior Officials.

The **Agricultural Technical Cooperation Working Group (ATCWG)**, formally known as the Agricultural Technical Cooperation Experts' Group (ATCEG) was established in November 1996 as a formal APEC body to promote agricultural technical cooperation between APEC member economies.

The Group (ATCWG) promotes agricultural technical cooperation between APEC Member Economies. The aim is to improve the economic development and social welfare of member economies by improving agricultural cooperation and capacity building. The group formulated and develop a framework undertaking cooperative activities or joint activities to enhance agriculture's contribution to the region's economic growth and social well-being.

The ATCWG's current priorities are:-

- Supply chain management of agri-foods for better market access by SMEs
- Ensuring the quality and safety of fresh produce.
- Networking Agricultural Technology Transfer and Training
- Building bio-security planning and surveillance capacity for APEC member economies,
- The Development and Adoption of International Setting with a focus on Plant and Animal Health

The project on Building Bio-Security Planning and Surveillance Capacity for APEC member economies implemented today is under the leadership and support of **The Plant and Animal Quarantine and Pest Management** sub-Group of ATCWG. One focus of the subgroup is preparing for a Workshop on International Standards (IPPC, OIE) for Plant and Animal Health to be held at the USDA's Center for Epidemiology and Animal Health's (CEAH) facilities in Fort Collins, Colorado in October 2005. The workshop will assist member economies to align their plant and animal health quarantine programs with international standards.

Other activities of the **The Plant and Animal Quarantine and Pest Management** sub-group include: -

- Extending the capacity of developing economies to build specimen-based pest lists to ensure effective pest management strategies.
- Building capacity to undertake pest risk analysis in support of market access negotiations.
- Enhancing awareness of the WTO SPS agreement
- Addressing the trade risks from Alien Invasive Species. An APEC Symposium on the Management of the Golden Apple Snail was held in Pingtung, Chinese Taipei on 6-11 September 2004.
- Training regional scientists to design, develop and produce multimedia diagnostic (LUCID) keys for plant pest identification in ASEAN in Kuala Lumpur in September 2004
- Developing a Handbook for the Management of Plant Disease Herbaria and Pathogen Collections in Developing Economies.
- Developing a Handbook to assist member economies to undertake the surveillance of plant pests.

In the past year several activities have been funded by Australia on behalf of the sub-group:-

- A Regional Workshop on Diagnostic Standards and a Training Course on Diagnostics
- A Workshop on Standards and Priorities for Developing Pest Lists in Economies of South East Asia
- A Crawford Fund Masterclass on Australia's Biosecurity System
- Building Capacity to Undertake Pest Risk Analysis
- A Workshop on Developing Guidelines for Diagnosis, Surveillance and Response Procedures for the Major Fruit Fly Species of South East Asia was held in Kuala Lumpur in March 2005.

PROJECT ON BUILDING BIOSECURITY PLANNING AND SURVEILLANCE CAPACITY

Biosecurity attempts to ensure that ecologies sustaining either plants or animals are maintained. It also includes preventing biological pests/diseases from entering the area.

The developing field on biosecurity focuses on preparing for and responding to pests incursions. This includes :

- surveillance, biodetection,
- early warning systems,
- planning and preparedness, and
- consequences management.

Biosecurity planning is a strategic exercise focusing attention on the opportunities for industry to take pre-emptive action, including through research and development, against exotic pests that pose the greatest threat to productivity. Biosecurity planning is also a key component that underpins any economy's readiness to trade and access markets in that it strengthens the economy's credentials in expounding that its production areas and ecosystems are free from undesirable invasives.

In order to engage in biosecurity planning it is imperative that economies have a sound knowledge of the health status of their agricultural and forestry industries and native flora, drawing on specimen-based records and having in place key processes such as an effective surveillance system.

The workshop will improve the capacity of APEC economies to identify established pests and exotic pest threats, build specimen-based pest lists, detect new exotic pests and demonstrate the pest status of an area to underpin market access negotiations. Capacity building activities that facilitate trade are consistent with the objectives of the APEC Economic Leaders for *the promotion of trade in food products* (Brunei Darussalam, November 2000) and the Osaka Action Agenda.

The objectives of the Workshops are to:

- 1) Create awareness and build/enhance/increase capacity in APEC economies to design surveillance programs for building information on the health status of agricultural industries and native flora and for early detection of serious exotic pests. Pest surveillance is an integral component of governmental/industry/pest specific biosecurity plans for supporting trade in agricultural commodities;
- 2) Build APEC-wide understanding of, and share information on, the need for economies to engage in biosecurity planning as a means of containing transboundary movement of exotic pests (e.g. golden apple snail, avian flu, banana bunchy top virus, etc.) and to mitigate damage and losses caused by invasive pests and diseases that do cross sovereign borders;
- 3) Build capacity of economies to respond to exotic pests to reduce economic impacts caused by incursions and outbreaks of such invasives; and
- 4) Strengthen capacity of APEC economies to implement SPS measures in compliance to the requirements of the WTO SPS Agreement.

This activity is made up of two back-to-back workshops on biosecurity planning and surveillance on plant pests. The first workshop will involve presentations that address elements of biosecurity planning, followed by exercises that will require participants to consider the issues that biosecurity planning raises for industry, government agencies and bench scientists. An exercise in identifying and ranking exotic pest threats is envisaged. Participants will be asked to consider a program of pre-emptive research and development to mitigate pests that do arrive.

The workshop on surveillance of plant pests will look at the principles and current state of knowledge on surveillance and participants will be asked to provide critical feedback on the manual on plant pest surveillance being written for developing countries. Participants will also engage in exercises requiring them to develop surveillance strategies targeting exotic pest threats. Real examples will be the basis for the case studies.

**APEC Workshop on
Building Biosecurity Planning and Surveillance Capacity for APEC Member Economies
August 15 ~ 20, 2005
The Legend Hotel, Kuala Lumpur
Malaysia
Program
Workshop 1: Biosecurity Planning**

Monday, 15th August 2005

08.00 – 09.00	Registration
09.00 – 10.00	Opening Session <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Welcoming remarks by Dato' Hjh. Khamsiah Hj. Muhammad, Director General, Department of Agriculture, Malaysia • Opening remarks by H.E Ambassador Tran Trong Toan, Deputy Executive Director, APEC Secretariat • Official Opening by Honorable Tan Sri Dato' Hj. Muhyiddin bin Mohd. Yassin, Minister of Agriculture and Agro-based Industry, Malaysia
10.00 – 10.30	REFRESHMENTS
10.30 – 10.45	Briefing on the Objectives of the Workshop (<i>Dr Loke Wai Hong, CABI-SEARC</i>)
SESSION 1:	Biosecurity in the Global Context <i>Chairperson: Dato' Sofian Mohd. Salleh, Deputy Director General(Development), Department of Agriculture, Malaysia</i>
10.45 – 11.15	Keynote Address by Mr Gary T.Greene, Asia Pacific Region USDA- Animal & Plant Health Inspection Services
11.15 – 12.00	Presentation - WTO, Biosecurity and Surveillance (<i>Dr Graeme Evans, Australia</i>)

12.00 – 12.20	Presentation – Biosecurity Planning and Surveillance Capacity of APEC Economies (<i>Dr Lum Keng Yeang, CABI-SEARC</i>)
12.20 – 13.00	Presentation - The Biosecurity Capacity Need Assessment Tool (<i>Dr Mike Robson, FAO Rome</i>)
13.00 – 14.00	LUNCH
SESSION 2:	Elements of Biosecurity <i>Chairperson: Dr Lee Su See, Forest Research Institute, Malaysia</i>
14.00 – 14.30	Introduction - Elements of Biosecurity (<i>Dr Loke Wai Hong, CABI-SEARC</i>)
14.30 – 15.30	Group Discussion I: Consideration and Ranking of Biosecurity Elements
15.30 – 16.00	Reports from Group Discussion I
16.00 – 16.30	REFRESHMENTS
SESSION 3:	Biosecurity Planning in APEC Economies <i>Chairperson: Dr Lee Su See, Forest Research Institute, Malaysia</i>
16.30 – 17.30	Member Economy Presentations on 'National Biosecurity Planning' <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Japan • China • Russian Federation • Singapore
17.30 – 18.00	Discussion/Wrap-up Day 1

Tuesday, 16th August 2005

SESSION 4: Developing Biosecurity Plans

Chairperson: Ms Azizah Md. Jan, DOA Malaysia

08.30 – 09.00	Presentation – Forestry Biosecurity Planning (<i>Dr Lee Su See, FRIM</i>)
09.00 – 09.20	Introduction -Threat Identification (<i>Dr Elizabeth Asteraki, CABI-SEARC</i>)
09.20 – 10.20	Group Discussion II: Threat Identification
10.20 – 10.50	Reports from Group Discussion II
10.50 – 11.10	REFRESHMENTS
11.10 – 11.30	Introduction - Pathway Analysis, Risk Mitigation and Research Planning (<i>Dr Graeme Evans, Australia</i>)
11.30 – 12.30	Group Discussion III
12.30 – 13.00	Reports from Group Discussion III
13.00 – 14.00	LUNCH
14.00 – 14.30	Introduction – Biosecurity Preparedness: Collections, Host-pest List, Data-sheets and Diagnostic Tools (<i>Dr Lum Keng Yeang, CABI-SEARC</i>)
14.30 – 15.30	Group Discussion IV
15.30 – 16.00	REFRESHMENTS
16.00 – 16.30	Reports from Group Discussion IV
16.30 – 17.00	Discussion/Wrap-up Day 2

Wednesday, 17th August 2005

SESSION 5: Information Resources for Biosecurity Planning

Chairperson: Dr Graeme Evans, Australia

09.00 – 10.00	Presentation – The International Portal for Food Safety, Animal & Plant Health (<i>Dr Mike Robson, FAO Rome</i>)
10.00 – 10.30	REFRESHMENTS

SESSION 6: Managing Biosecurity Threats - Case Studies

Chairperson: Dr Graeme Evans, Australia

10.30 – 11.30	Member Economy Presentations on 'Managing Biosecurity Threats' <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Brunei Darussalam• Indonesia• Thailand• Vietnam
11.30 – 12.00	Discussion
12.00 – 12.30	Workshop Summary & recommendations
12.30 – 12.45	Closing
12.45 – 14.00	LUNCH
14.00 – 17.00	Field Trip (optional)

Workshop II: Surveillance in Trade

Thursday, 18th August 2005

09.00 – 09.15 Introduction to the Workshop
(*Dr Loke Wai Hong, CABI-SEARC*)

SESSION 1: Introduction, Pest Pathways and Surveys
Chairperson: Ms Asna Booty Othman, ICMPFF

09.15 – 09.45 Presentation - Pest Pathways from Borders to
Rural Agricultural Zones
(*Dr Paul Pheloung, DAFF Australia*)

09.45 – 10.15 Presentation – Why Do We Survey?
(*Dr Graeme Evans, Australia*)

10.15 – 10.45 REFRESHMENTS

SESSION 2: Current Challenges to Trade and the Role of Surveillance
Chairperson: Dr Lum Keng Yeang, CABI-SEARC

10.45 – 11.00 Presentation – Questionnaire Findings on
Current Surveillance Capacity in APEC
Member Economies
(*Dr Elizabeth Asteraki, CABI-SEARC*)

11.00 – 11.30 Presentation – Role of Surveillance in
Accessing International Markets
(*Ms Asna Booty Othman, ICMPFF*)

11.30 – 12.00 Presentation – SPS – The Cost of Compliance
(*Ms Wan Normah Wan Ismail, DOA Malaysia*)

12.00 – 12.30 Discussion

12.30 – 14.00 LUNCH

SESSION 3: Guidelines for Pest Surveillance in Agriculture and Forestry
Chairperson: Dr Elizabeth Asteraki, CABI-SEARC

14.00 – 14.30 Presentation – Introduction to Surveillance
Guidelines
(*Dr Graeme Evans, Australia*)

14.30 – 15.00 Presentation – Role of Statistics in Surveys
(*Mr Kalaivanan Nadarajah, DOA Malaysia*)

15.00 – 15.30 Discussion

15.30 – 16.00 REFRESHMENTS

SESSION 4: Specimen Collections
Chairperson: Dr. Elizabeth Asteraki, CABI-SEARC

16.00 – 16.30 Presentation – Insects and Other Arthropods
(*Mr Yusof Othman, DOA Malaysia*)

16.30 – 17.00 Presentation – Plant Pathogens
(*Dr Lum Keng Yeang, CABI-SEARC*)

17.00 – 17.15 REFRESHMENTS

17.15 – 17.45 General Discussion

Friday, 19th August 2005

SESSION 5: Field Considerations and Guidelines in Practice

Chairperson: Ms Zam Karim, DOA Malaysia

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| 09.00 – 09.30 | Presentation: Considerations in The Field
(<i>Dr Soetikno S.S., CABI-SEARC</i>) |
| 09.30 – 10.00 | Presentation: The Guidelines in Practice in Thailand
(<i>Dr Paul Pheloung, DAFF Australia</i>) |
| 10.00 – 10.30 | Discussion |
| 10.30 – 11.00 | REFRESHMENTS |

SESSION 6: Current Market Access Issues

Chairperson: Ms Wan Normah Wan Ismail, DOA Malaysia

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| 11.00 – 12.15 | Member Economy Presentations on
Identifying Market Access Negotiations
that are held up <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Australia• Brunei• China• Indonesia• Japan |
| 12.15 – 14.30 | LUNCH |
| 14.30 – 15.45 | Member Economy Presentations (continued) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Malaysia• Philippines• Russian Federation• Thailand• USA• Singapore |
| 15.45 – 16.00 | REFRESHMENTS |
| 16.00 – 17.30 | Wrap-up Session |

Saturday, 20th August 2005

SESSION 7: Regional Networking and Collaboration

*Chairperson: Mr Mohd. Khairuddin Md. Tahir, Deputy Director
General (Operation), Department of Agriculture, Malaysia*

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| 09.00 – 10.00 | Presentation - Opportunities for Regional Collaboration – A
Surveillance Network?
(<i>Dr Graeme Evans and Paul Pheloung, DAFF Australia</i>) |
| 10.00 – 10.30 | REFRESHMENTS |

SESSION 8: Closing Session

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| 10.30 – 11.00 | Workshop Summary & Recommendation |
| 11.00 - 11.30 | <i>Certificate Presentation & Closing by Secretary General
Ministry Of Agriculture and Agro-based Industry, Malaysia</i> |
| 11.30 -12.30 | LUNCH |

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