



Session 4: Concluding Remarks and Vote of Thanks

Americas and Caribbean Regional Consultation
10-11 February 2016, San Jose, Costa Rica



The following objectives have been met thanks to useful input from all of you

- To review the progress made and the continued relevance of the priority areas and issues identified in 2013
- To identify new emerging national, sub-regional and regional priorities influencing and impacting on sustainable development in the region
- To share country and regional experiences and views



Some Highlights

- Comprehensive overview of Costa Rica's agriculture and thought-provoking speech by Costa Rican Minister and Vice Minister of Agriculture, and well-prepared showcases of Costa Rican projects and programmes
- Useful experiences and examples of partnership with CABI shared through case studies by several member countries and partners
- A more interactive and systematic approach adopted, focusing on select issues of CABI strategic areas through CABI's and partners' presentations
- Active participation by both member country representatives and partners, and strong ownership of priority areas and issues by member country representatives
- While the previous 7 priority areas being viewed to be still very relevant, some new priority areas and issues are emerging

Consolidated priority areas and issues for Americas and Caribbean 2016

Priority Areas In support of SDGs 2, 12, 15, 17 and COP21	Priority Issues
Trade and market access and development, domestically, regionally and internationally	SPS compliance; Value-chain focus and postharvest value-addition; GAP and best practices promulgation, and capacity building; Commercialization and contract farming. Import substitution; Diversification and priority crops; Farm/product certification; linkage between producers and tourism; agri-tourism
Knowledge management, communication and use	Technology transfer (particularly amongst member countries, and south-south); Sharing knowledge amongst stakeholder groups including youth and grassroots (Facebook Agriculture); Mobile advisory services; Improving communications to farmers; Evidence-based policies. Archiving and managing institutional & national research, production & statistical information. Access to experts, case studies, lessons learned etc. Pest information and presence knowledge-sharing platform. Promotion & farmer awareness to promote uptake of biological products. Pest Risk Analysis standards and tools
Systems approach to Plant health	Managing a range of stressors including pests (IPM), water, and soil health; IPM to reduce pesticide inputs including collaboration with agro-input dealers and advice on alternatives to banned pesticides ; early warning systems for newly emerged/key pests & diseases; quality assurance and application advice on bio-inputs. Minor crops and lack of availability of registered products on minor crops

Biodiversity and invasive species management	Invasive management; Capacity building of IS identification and diagnostics; habitat manipulation/agro-biodiversity enrichment. Microbial resource collection, characterization and utilization; Development and production of biopesticides and biological control agents , and implications of their use. Public education. Impact on livelihoods
Improved agricultural productivity & production systems	Pollinators; soil microbiome; ecosystem services in agriculture; “win-win” production systems like the Minister gave examples
Food safety	GAP to prevent food contamination, maximum pesticide residue limits, heavy metal contamination, GMOs
Access & Benefit sharing	Understanding (new) legislation among the countries, reinforcing linkages between scientific community & government, sharing procedures/requirements
Food & Nutritional Security	Crop diversification
Animal Health	Zoonotic diseases; anti-microbial resistance; genetic resource preservation
Diversification	Alternative livelihoods; diversification; tourism, including agro-tourism; youth and agribusiness; use of social media and new technology
Cross-cutting: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Climate Change • Institutional capacity building • Publication of, and access to, authoritative and up-to-date information resources • Research • Monitoring & Evaluation 	



What happens next?

The outcomes from this Regional Consultation will

- be consolidated with those from other regional consultations, matched with CABI's capabilities, resources and strategies, and prioritised
- influence the revision of the CABI Medium Term Strategy 2017-19 and Vision 2020
- be fed into the bigger CABI Review Conference 2016, which is scheduled for 26-27 July 2016
- facilitate implementation of agreed joint initiatives with member countries

Encourage member country representatives to link CABI with relevant authorities and seek their approvals on CABI's draft Policy paper on ABS before CABI Review Conference on 26-27 July 2016

We are pleased to announce the



19th CABI Review Conference

Date: **Tuesday 26th – Wednesday 27th July 2016**

Location: **Runnymede-on-thames Hotel, Windsor Road, Egham, Surrey**

Please save these dates in your calendar.

Further information will be provided in due course but to find out more about this unique meeting go to: **www.cabi.org/membership**

username: **cabi** | password: **member**



Vote of thanks

- **The host country** – Costa Rica for the wonderful hospitality and arrangements, and the significant support including his commitment to progressing Costa Rica's membership of CABI from The Hon. Dr Luis Felipe Arauz Cavallini, Minister of Agriculture and Livestock, and good efforts from those who were involved in the showcases
- Delegates from CABI member countries, prospective member countries and partner organisations for your active participation, and valuable comments and suggestions throughout the Consultation meeting, and for your long-term support to CABI
- A team across CABI for their good efforts in organisation - both in terms of programme design, intellectual input and logistical arrangements. It has been truly a good team effort
- The hotel, which has provided good facilities, services and comfortable environment



Assalamualikum शुक्रिया xie-xie efharistó
mercí zikomo
ありがとう
obrigada
urakoze
danke
thank you
tak
gracias
ke itumetse
zikomo
terima kasih
dhanyawaad
asante