



CABI Member Countries Regional Consultation: Americas and the Caribbean

Working in partnership for a sustainable future

12–14 September 2018, Delta Hotel, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada

KNOWLEDGE FOR LIFE



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Background

As an intergovernmental organization, CABI's strategies and programmes are driven by the concerns and needs of its member countries, and regional consultations are an important part of that process. As in the past, these triennial consultations are aimed at aligning CABI's work with national and regional research and development needs to help to develop mutually agreed well-resourced projects in close collaboration with national partners.

In the last round of regional consultations, held in 2015 and 2016, CABI was mandated to provide support in FIVE priority areas, plus FOUR cross-cutting areas, in line with CABI's capabilities and donors' priorities:

Priority areas:

1. Trade and market access
2. Knowledge management, communication and use
3. Food and nutrition security
4. Plant health systems
5. Biodiversity and ecosystem management (including invasives species management)

Cross-cutting issues:

6. Capacity building and governance
7. Public–private partnerships
8. Women and youth empowerment
9. Support for monitoring, evaluation and impact analysis

In 2018–19, three very successful regional consultations were held in the Americas (Canada), Asia (China) and Africa (Botswana), respectively:

- Americas and Caribbean: 12–14 September 2018, Delta Hotel, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada
<https://www.cabi.org/news-and-media/2018/cabi-americas-and-caribbean-consultation-focuses-on-the-impact-of-invasive-species-on-food-security-and-trade/>
- Asia-Pacific: 16–19 October 2018, Beijing Friendship Hotel, Beijing, China
<https://www.cabi.org/news-and-media/2018/stronger-value-chains-and-trade-links-high-on-agenda-at-cabi-s-asia-pacific-regional-consultation/>
- Africa: 26–27 February 2019, and the aligned Invasive Species Policy Summit on 28 February 2019
<https://www.cabi.org/news-and-media/2019/strong-inclusive-and-empowering-partnerships-vital-to-tackling-the-world-s-food-crisis/>

Building on the success of and lessons learned from the previous regional consultations, these consultation meetings followed a similar arrangement, with the following specific objectives:

- to review the progress made against CABI's Medium-Term Strategy 2017–19, both globally and regionally
- to share national strategies and priorities, and examples of partnership with CABI involving member countries, prospective member countries and partners
- to review the continued relevance of the priorities identified previously
- to link regional and partner priorities with CABI's capabilities and strategies
- to carry out more in-depth discussions on key strategic areas, programmes and initiatives

The outcomes of the regional consultations will feed into the next CABI Review Conference, scheduled for 12–13 September 2019, and they have helped to guide the revisions of CABI's Medium-Term Strategy 2020–2022.

Process

On 12–14 September 2018, some 60 delegates, including representatives from 12 CABI member countries and two prospective member countries, several donors and many Canadian agencies, gathered in Ottawa, Canada, for CABI's Americas and Caribbean regional consultation meeting, where emerging issues around invasive species, food security and other strategic areas were discussed. Delegates were also invited on a field trip to Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada's (AAFC's) research and experimental facilities, hosted by AAFC staff on 15 September.

Presentations were made on the progress made against the Medium-Term Strategy 2017–2019 since the last regional consultations, particularly on the five priority areas and four cross-cutting areas. As stated above, these included: trade and market access; knowledge management, communication and use; food and nutrition security; plant health systems; and biodiversity and ecosystems (including invasive species management); with the cross-cutting areas being capacity building and governance and women and youth empowerment, with the ultimate purpose of working towards addressing/contributing to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

The meeting programme and pre- and post-meeting efforts and interactions followed a logical flow:

- They started with a focused review of the progress made on the priority areas identified in 2015–2016 by:
 - compiling and distributing a dossier on “CABI in the Americas and Caribbean”
 - the delivery of a presentation by CABI's CEO to update attendees on the overall progress
 - regional representatives reviewing the progress in the region
 - other presenters providing updates on some of CABI's new initiatives and products
- This was followed by:
 - highlighting issues involving the five CABI strategic areas through five pre-prepared and circulated position statements, associated presentations and break-out discussions
 - reviewing the continued relevance of the five priority areas and four cross-cutting areas and associated issues identified in 2015–2016, and identifying new key emerging priorities, both subregional and regional
- The process concluded with the consolidation of priority areas and issues for the American-Caribbean region with those from the other two regions, and by linking regional priorities with CABI's capabilities, resources and strategies, and identifying synergies among partners

Appendix A presents the final programme of this regional consultation.

Summary of key events and sessions during the regional consultation

Opening session: Medium-Term Strategy review and keynote addresses

Delegates were warmly welcomed by both Dr Dennis Rangi, Director General for Development at CABI, and Dr Michèle Marcotte, Director of Research, Development and Technology at AAFC and CABI Liaison Officer for Canada, who opened a plenary session looking at progress towards CABI's Medium-Term Strategy 2017–2019, before inviting keynote addresses from the host country, Canada, and CABI. Dr Marcotte made the following remarks: “It was a pleasure and logical for Canada to host CABI's Americas and Caribbean regional consultation here in Ottawa. Canada has over 70 years of partnership with CABI, during which time CABI has provided access to overseas infrastructure, scientific expertise and networks – for example China, Switzerland and the UK – to AAFC and Canadian researchers. Participation in international science bodies like CABI allows member countries to work together to generate new science and to facilitate the exchange of biocontrol organisms in order for each member country to more effectively combat pests, diseases and invasive alien species like weeds. Within the long-term collaboration between the two parties, CABI's role in Canada's efforts targeting invasive insect pests and weeds has been particularly significant and commendable.”

In his welcome address, Dr Dennis Rangi stated: “The world around us continues to change and its expectations and demands on us, on our institutions and on our countries are increasing and becoming enormously complex. So we should regard this as a period of opportunity to work more closely together. This meeting provides an opportunity for our member countries to provide input into CABI's plans and thus own them, but, more importantly, it serves as a mechanism by which CABI can listen and engage directly with its membership. Based on the priorities identified by you in 2015–16, we have built more capabilities in the issues you identified. We believe these will help our member countries in their endeavour to achieve the SDGs.”

Dr Trevor Nicholls, CABI's CEO, gave an overview of CABI's capabilities and strengths, as well as the key strategic areas, programmes and projects CABI is leading or involved in all over the world. He reviewed CABI's progress against the critical milestones of the Medium-Term Strategy 2017–2019; 82% of the critical milestones were met or on track, and of the 11% with major variance, many were beyond of CABI's control: for example, the delay in implementation by some partners and countries lacking capacities. Dr Nicholls explained that, building on key programmes (e.g. Plantwise and Action on Invasives), and strategic focuses on plant health, trade and market access, seeds, nutrition, soil and invasives, “CABI in 2020” will be contributing to healthy, sustainable agriculture, through the adoption of mobile and digitally enabled, integrated and sustainable, gender-sensitive and climate-smart approaches.

A number of keynote presentations followed, given by representatives of Canadian agencies. They included the following:

- **Canada's Feminist International Assistance Policy** – *Mr Amrane Boumghar, Agriculture Agri-Food Canada* outlined six action areas of Canada's Feminist International Assistance Policy, with gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls being the core action area, and he highlighted the importance of women's leadership and decision-making in climate change mitigation and adaptation efforts, resilience-building and sustainable natural resource management.
- **Canada's Invasive Alien Species Strategy** – *Ms Kelly Torck, Environment and Climate Change Canada* informed the delegates of Canada's National Strategy on Invasive Alien Species, which aims to protect Canada's aquatic and terrestrial ecosystems, and their native biological diversity and domestic plants and animals, from the risks of invasive alien species (IAS). The strategy consists of five implementation strategies: legislation and regulation; risk analysis; science; education and outreach; and international co-operation.
- **Canada's Plant Health Science Network** – *Dr Pierre Bilodeau, Canadian Food Inspection Agency* described the vision of the Network as: “Connecting experts in plant health to address emergencies and resolve collective challenges by providing more rapid access to specialized knowledge and expertise, resources and capacities to support, protect and improve Canada's plant resource base.”

Presenting case studies from member countries and partners

This session started with a presentation from CABI's regional representatives entitled *CABI in the Americas and Caribbean – Partnerships in Action*, which reviewed partnerships and collaborative activities in the region over the past three years, and outlined CABI's future regional plans and strategies.

The following member countries and partners were invited to present case studies on their work in partnership with CABI:

- **Canada:** *CABI collaboration: An integral partnership influences global management of the invasive alien brown marmorated stink bug* – Dr Tara Gariepy, AAFC, London, Ontario.
- **Jamaica:** *Reinforcing food security and strengthening the national plant health system in Jamaica* – Mr Courtney Cole, Ministry of Industry, Commerce, Agriculture and Fisheries, Kingston.
- **Brazil:** *Biological control of Fall Army Worm in South America* – Dr Carlos Wilcken, Faculdade de Ciências Agrônômicas – Universidade Estadual Paulista, Botucatu.
- **Chile:** *Microflora of Robinson Crusoe Island to protect and promote native plants* – Dr Andres Frances, Instituto de Investigaciones Agropecuarias – Ministerio de Agricultura, Chillán.
- **Trinidad & Tobago:** *The Global Environment Facility project* – Strengthening barriers to invasive alien species on small island states – Dr Simone Titus, Ministry of Agriculture, Land and Fisheries, Chaguana.

These presentations can be accessed at <https://www.cabi.org/membership/key-documents-members-only/regional-consultations/>



Reviewing and prioritizing key issues

In order to address member countries' needs better, build upon CABI's core strengths and shape CABI's new Medium-Term Strategy 2020–22, CABI selected five strategic areas and one key programme (listed below) to focus on for this round of regional consultations, after assessing the impacts and opportunities of the changing global environment:

1. invasive species
2. agriculture and climate change
3. development communication
4. digital development
5. value chains and trade
6. Plantwise

Presentations highlighting key issues and focusing on the position statements sent to delegates in advance were given by members of CABI staff, and associated break-out group discussions were held to enable member countries representatives and partners to provide their input to and feedback on the future plans for the Plantwise programme and the position statements regarding these five selected strategic areas. In particular, the goals, opportunities and challenges of these strategic areas were identified and discussed, and member countries' commitments were sought.

Table 1 summarizes some key suggestions and feedback from the break-out discussions while Appendix B presents more comprehensive feedback.



Table 1: Key suggestions and feedback from the break-out discussions at the Americas and the Caribbean regional consultation

Strategic area/programme	Suggestions/feedback
Plantwise	Extend its focus beyond production to support farmers in accessing (new) markets; explore with private companies the possibility of creating a CABI-managed benefit-sharing fund to sustain Plantwise to support the farmers in their supply chain; and link plant doctors with local mass-media to increase uptake and reach of Plantwise services.
Development communication and digital development	Use multiple channels, ways and languages to get the latest science to the audience in accessible/actionable terms, make sure we clearly demonstrate examples of how programmes actually share lessons learned and celebrate successes; and it is important to consider utilizing open data and information sources.
Invasive species	Promote citizen science to help to detect and identify IAS; access information on biodiversity from other countries, which may exist but not be shared; and mitigate against illegal imports.
Agriculture and climate change	Disseminate more climate research in the form of actionable advice for smallholder farmers; work with partners on increasing community/farmer awareness of greenhouse gases coming from agricultural activities; and facilitate access to improved information on seasonal weather events for farmers, so they can make informed decisions (what crops/varieties/what pest to prepare for).
Value chains and trade	The importance of involving youth and women in the value chain development, which is also more likely to secure funding (inclusivity); building the capacity of regulatory authorities; and keeping the value chain linked (if you lose one part the whole chain breaks down).

New CABI initiatives and products

Four new CABI initiatives and products were showcased during presentations by CABI:

- AgPortal – a digital agri-advisory service support tool
- PestSmart – an e-learning tool for field diagnostics
- Biopesticide Portal – a digital tool to facilitate the identification, sourcing and application of biocontrol products
- SciDev.Net – which brings science and development together through news and analysis

Delegates were informed that in addressing member countries' needs, and building on CABI's core strengths in plant health, publishing and development communication, as well as successful implementation of major programmes like Plantwise, over the past three years CABI has developed a number of new initiatives and products, particularly the above-mentioned ones, and has also completed a merger with SciDevNet.

Priorities for donors and international partners

Partnership is the key to success in meeting the requests of CABI's member countries. Without the strong support of partners and donors CABI is not able to achieve its mission and goals. In this session, three key donors and partners in the region (see the list below) were invited to talk about the priorities and strategies of their respective organizations, funding mechanisms in the region, and opportunities for strengthening collaboration with CABI and its member countries and partners in the region:

1. **United States Department of Agriculture Foreign Agricultural Service** – Ms Betsy Baysinger, Director, Trade and Scientific Capacity Building Division, Office of Capacity Building and Development.
2. **International Development and Research Centre** – Mr Santiago Alba-Corral, Associate Director Food Security.
3. **Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)** – Dr Irene Hoffmann, Secretary of the Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture Climate, Biodiversity, Land and Water Department.

These presentations can be accessed at <https://www.cabi.org/membership/key-documents-members-only/regional-consultations/>

Review of the relevance and importance of priority areas/issues identified in 2015–16

To review the priorities identified previously, a second set of break-out group discussions was held, with the following specific objectives:

- to review the relevance and importance to the respective subregions of the priority areas and issues identified previously
- to identify and agree on newly emerging priority areas and specific issues, taking into account member countries' national and regional priorities, and priority areas and issues described by CABI, donors and partners in their presentations

The delegates were divided into two sub-groups:

- Group 1: Americas – Brazil (2 delegates), Canada (5 delegates) and Chile, plus partners
- Group 2: The Caribbean – Anguilla, Barbados, Bahamas, Bermuda, British Virgin Islands, Guyana, Grenada, Jamaica, Montserrat, and Trinidad & Tobago and Turks and Caicos, plus partners

Table 2 presents the outcomes of the second set of break-out discussions during the consultation.

Table 2: Priorities reviewed during the Americas and the Caribbean regional consultation 2018

(Blue font signifies lower-priority areas/issues, orange font signifies new priority areas/issues and black font signifies ongoing priority areas/issues)

Priority areas In support of Global Goals 1, 2, 12, 15, 17 and COP21	Priority issues
Development of trade and market access for safe food, domestically, regionally and internationally	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide advice and support for farmers on aspects such as good agricultural practices compliance; phytosanitary standards and compliance; crop diversification (e.g. high-value horticulture); post-harvest management; improving the quality of agricultural inputs; improving access to market information; improved technology; and improved range management for livestock. • Support for market access along value chains, including sanitary and phytosanitary (SPS) compliance and standards harmonization, food safety, and clusters. • Stimulate the creation of farmer organizations, developing entrepreneurial and commercial and risk management skills, and improving access to affordable credit (countries' responsibility, not CABI's). • Strengthen support for food safety, including information on legislative and regulatory requirements, prevention of mycotoxins, maximum residue levels, heavy metal contamination, animal health and welfare, zoonotic diseases and the safe use of veterinary drugs (ditto). • Develop public-private partnership to support smallholder market access along value chains, including SPS compliance and standards harmonization and food safety.
Knowledge management, communication and use	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve communication with development stakeholder groups for greater reach, frequency and impact of messaging to stimulate technology uptake and deliver new knowledge to farmers using mixed methods (including mass-media such as mobile and social media as well as extension approaches based on face-to-face interactions) and gender-inclusive approaches for all stakeholder groups, particularly the use of ICTs (including e-monitoring and evaluation, e-statistics and e-vouchers). • Continue CABI's support to advisory services to include soil health, selection of crop and seed varieties, integrated water and land management, inputs, animal health and welfare. • Assist national services with information and data management, e.g. publication of and access to authoritative information resources, archiving and managing research data, awareness-raising and policy development for open and big data policies. • Develop digital tools – e.g. apps to support other priority areas and to engage youth. • Develop channels and systems for multi-stakeholder/dialogue models of communication and information-sharing – regional-level innovation systems. • Capacity building for data literacy and data management. • Supporting evidence-based policy through curated information resources and development of an enabling environment for evidence-based decision-making. • Getting information resources into schools to target youth and children.

Priority areas In support of Global Goals 1, 2, 12, 15, 17 and COP21	Priority issues
Systems approach to plant health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support farmers for informed decision-making at the farm level through strengthened extension services that are able to advise on integrated pest management in high-value and staple crops, rational use of agrochemical inputs (including biofertilizers), biotechnology applications for pests and diseases (including biopesticides), biological control agents and organic agriculture. • Develop better approaches to manage pollinators, soil health and ecosystem services supporting agriculture. • Support plant health systems, including aspects such as improved diagnostic skills at all levels, informed advice on new resistant varieties, seed selection and genetically modified crops, informed policy leading to an improved regulatory and legislative environment, and optimizing links between different sectors. • Build resilience in farming systems at all levels to better adapt to climate and other changes, including the management of a range of biophysical stressors including pests (integrated pest management), water (Integrated Water Management), and soil nutrients (Integrated Nutrient Management), and early warning and rapid response systems for newly emerging / key pests and diseases. • Promote access to quality-controlled agricultural inputs (seeds, fertilizers, chemicals). • Strengthen support for livestock management, including improved range management, advice regarding zoonotic diseases, and the safe use of veterinary drugs.
Food and nutrition security	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contribute to improved food security at all levels by the application of technology including new crop varieties to improve efficiency and productivity, reduction of post-harvest losses through improved storage, post-harvest processing and preservation. • Promote the development of nutrition-sensitive agriculture through support to aspects such as awareness-raising and policy development, human health and food safety, advice on nutraceuticals and bio-fortification advice, food preparation, and food / diet diversification. • Strengthen seed systems, including aspects such as improved genetic materials, availability of neglected crops and improving self-saved seed. • Promote climate-smart agricultural practices that reduce greenhouse gas emissions, adapt to changing conditions and improve resilience. (comment from Canada: include SPS treatments.) • Promote agricultural diversification and the use of indigenous crops. • Support cash crops, fodder, fuel, and fibre production and ornamentals.
Biodiversity and ecosystem management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve the prevention and management of invasive species using national and regional approaches, including capacity building in remote diagnostics, strengthening capacity for management and control of terrestrial and aquatic invasives • Develop capacity to use microbial resources for a range of outcomes in support of this objective, e.g. pharmaceutical and nutraceutical production, biopesticides, composting and waste management. • Comply with Nagoya Protocol, and promote its use, in support of the Convention on Biological Diversity – CABI tries to harmonize and work with member countries, e.g. to improve understanding of the implications of access and benefit-sharing for each member country. • Build a coalition of funding partners to prevent, eradicate or manage the invasive insects and weeds that constitute the greatest threats to food security, livelihoods and biodiversity.

Priority areas In support of Global Goals 1, 2, 12, 15, 17 and COP21	Priority issues
<p>CROSS-CUTTING: Capacity building and governance at local, national and regional levels</p> <p>Developing public–private partnerships when appropriate</p> <p>Enable, empower and employ women and youth, and embed monitoring, evaluation and impact analysis in all activities</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Facilitate knowledge transfer in South–South and North–South interactions involving member countries. • Provide information and training resources to support sustainable agro-tourism and other non-farm rural employment, particularly for women and youth. • Build individual, institutional and regional capacity to develop and govern agricultural innovation systems. • Reinforce linkages between the scientific community, universities, government, international organizations, and farmer associations. • Develop public–private partnership to support smallholder market access along value chains, including SPS compliance and standards harmonization and food safety. • Assist national services with information and data management, e.g. publication of and access to authoritative information resources; archiving and managing research; production and statistical data; awareness-raising; and policy development for open and big data policies. • Support training and capacity development.
<p>New</p> <p>Prevention and management of IAS</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Carry out research into migration facilitating IAS movement and introduction pathways in general. • Develop a mechanism to share IAS lists. • Facilitate the development of prioritization lists for IAS. • Share pest alerts / species intercepted at borders. • Use national and regional approaches, including capacity building in remote diagnostics, management and control of terrestrial and aquatic invasives. • Develop a sustainable funding mechanism to prevent, eradicate or manage the invasive species insects and weeds that constitute the greatest threats to food security, livelihoods and biodiversity. • Use development communication and digital development to raise awareness, monitor and facilitate effective management of IAS. • Explore frameworks for determining the appropriateness of different management approaches for invasive species (to avoid moral hazards). • Promote biocontrols where applicable.
<p>New</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Take climate change out from priority areas and include it as a cross-cutting area. • Treat development communication and digital development as cross-cutting priority areas.

Concluding session

The final session started with reporting back on the outcomes of the second set of break-out group discussions, which was followed by completion of feedback forms by delegates.

The session was concluded by CABI CEO, Dr Trevor Nicholls, who gave a presentation entitled Closing Remarks and Vote of Thanks and stated that by the end of the two days, the objectives set out at the beginning of the consultation had all been met thanks to the active participation of delegates from CABI's member countries and partners, and the good efforts of the CABI team.

Dr Nicholls noted that confirmed by the delegates of our member countries, the previous five priority areas and four cross-cutting areas are still very relevant, but with increasing emphasis on:

- value chains and market access
- climate-smart agriculture in practice
- digital development and data literacy
- knowledge management advice and consultancy for national systems
- a systems approach to plant health, including ornamentals
- invasives pathways – proactive not reactive defence
- use of microbial resources
- enabling biological control through access and benefit-sharing in line with Nagoya protocol
- considering high-input, intensive, urban agricultural systems, in addition to smallholders
- evidence-based agricultural practice and policy

Dr Nicholls reflected that having listened to the feedback from delegates, CABI's strategic priorities should be driven by two key SDGs: Gender Equality (SDG 5) and Climate Action (SDG 13). This would contribute to six other SDGs: No Poverty (SDG 1), Zero Hunger (SDG 2), Quality Education (SDG 4), Responsible Consumption and Production (SDG 12), Life on Land (SDG 15) and Partnerships for the Goals (SDG 17), which are of most relevance to CABI. There are therefore implications for the way CABI works: CABI needs to put women and girls at the centre of its plans from the outset; identify opportunities with high potential for reach, benefit and empowerment across the agriculture value chains and food systems; define women groups; and set clear baselines and target results for women.

Dr Nicholls informed delegates that the outcomes from this regional consultation would:

- be consolidated with those from other regional consultations, matched with CABI's capabilities, resources and strategies, and prioritized
- influence the updating of CABI's Medium-Term Strategy 2020–22
- be fed into the CABI Review Conference 2019, which is scheduled for 12–13 September 2019
- used to identify and implement agreed joint initiatives with member countries

Positive feedback was received from delegates through the completion of feedback forms: 89% of them gave the top two scores for the overall ranking, i.e. very satisfied and satisfied. Comments included the following:

“Well structured, wide ranging programme; presentations covering spectrum of CABI activities with strong subject matter expertise”, “The strategies in moving forward have been well articulated and are appropriate to the member needs”, “I was able to participate at all levels and was able to network with everyone”.

However, there were also suggestions for improvement:

“There was considerable repetition in presentations given by CABI. These should have been reduced and more time allocated to break-out sessions”, and “more opportunity for demonstration of CABI online products, particularly new initiatives, should be provided.”

Further consolidation of the outcomes from all regional consultations

Efforts have been made to consolidate some key outcomes from all three regional consultations to influence the finalization of five position statements and the development of two new ones (gender and youth development), and to guide the revision of the Medium-Term Strategy 2020–2022.

Please refer to the summary paper presented to the 20th Review Conference for key and consolidated outcomes and priorities.

Appendix A: Programme

11–14 Sept 2018, Delta Hotel, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada



Tuesday, 11 September 2018

Arrival of Delegates

1800 – 1900	Registration (Foyer Penthouse)
1900 – 2100	Welcome Reception (Pinnacle Room)



Wednesday, 12 September 2018

0800 – 0830	Registration (Foyer Penthouse)
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Opening Plenary Session: Medium-term Strategy Review and Keynote Addresses (Panorama Room)

0830 – 0900	Chairperson: Dr Michèle Marcotte , Director of Research, Development and Technology, Ottawa Research and Development Centre, AAFC, and CABI Liaison Officer for Canada
	Welcome Address and Introduction Dr Michèle Marcotte Dr Dennis Rangi , Director General, Development, CABI
	CABI: Progress Updates and Medium-term Strategy Review Dr Trevor Nicholls , Chief Executive Officer, CABI
0900 – 0930	
0930 – 0950	Keynote Address – Canada's Feminist International Assistance Policy – Mr Amrane Boumghar , Agriculture Agri-Food Canada
0950 – 1010	Keynote Address – Canada's Invasive Alien Species Strategy – Ms Kelly Torck , Environment and Climate Change Canada
1010 – 10:30	Keynote Address – Canada's Plant Health Science Network – Dr Pierre Bilodeau , Canadian Food Inspection Agency
1030 – 1100	Coffee/Tea Break and Group Photo

Session 1: Presenting Case Studies from Member Countries and Partners (Panorama Room)

1100 – 1130	Co-Chairpersons: Mr Daniel Lewis , Chief Agricultural Officer, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries and CABI Liaison Officer for Grenada, and Dr Qiaoqiao Zhang , Director, Memberships, CABI
	CABI in the Americas and Caribbean – Partnerships and Action Mr Naitram (Bob) Ramnanan , CABI, Curepe, Trinidad and Tobago

Working in Partnership with CABI

Presentations from member countries and partners

Canada – Canada-CABI collaboration: An integral partnership influences global management of the invasive alien brown marmorated stink bug – **Dr Tara Gariepy**, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, London, Ontario

1130 – 1300

Jamaica – Reinforcing food security and strengthening the national plant health system in Jamaica – **Mr Courtney Cole**, Ministry of Industry, Commerce, Agriculture and Fisheries, Kingston

Brazil – Biological control of Fall Army Worm in South America – **Dr Carlos Wilcken**, Faculdade de Ciências Agrônomicas – Universidade Estadual Paulista, Botucatu

Chile – Microflora of Robinson Crusoe Island to protect and promote native plants – **Dr Andres Frances**, Instituto de Investigaciones Agropecuarias – Ministerio de Agricultura, Chillán

Trinidad & Tobago – GEF project – Strengthening barriers to invasive alien species on small island states – **Dr. Simone Titus**, Ministry of Agriculture, Land and Fisheries, Chaguanas

1300 – 1400

Networking Buffet Lunch

Session 2: Reviewing & Prioritising Key Issues (Panorama Room)

Co-Chairpersons: **Dr Oudho Homenauth**, Director, National Agricultural Research and Extension Institute and CABI Liaison Officer for Guyana, and **Dr Dennis Rangi**, Director General for Development, CABI

Highlighting issues of select CABI strategic areas (5 x 15 minutes)

Plantwise – **Dr Yelitza Colmenarez**, CABI, Botucatu, Brazil

Development Communication and Digital Development – **Mr Nick Ishmael-Perkins** and **Ms Cambria Finegold**, CABI, Wallingford, UK

Agriculture & Climate Change – **Mr Luca Heeb**, CABI, Delémont, Switzerland

Invasive Species – **Dr Hariet Hinz**, CABI, Delémont, Switzerland

Value Chains & Trade – **Dr George Oduor**, CABI, Nairobi, Kenya

1400 – 1515

1515 – 1545

Coffee/Tea Break

Break-out group discussions 1: Highlighted issues of CABI strategic areas (3 groups)

Group 1: Development Communication & Digital Development

Group 2: Agriculture & Climate Change and Plantwise

Group 3: Invasive Species and Value Chains & Trade

1545 – 1730

1900 – 2200

Dinner – by invitation (Canal Ritz Restaurant, 375 Queen Elizabeth Drive [at Fifth Avenue], Ottawa)



Thursday, 13 September 2018

0800 – 0830 Registration (Day Delegates)

Session 2: Reviewing & Prioritising Key Issues (continued) (Panorama Room)

0830 – 0845 **Introduction: Objectives of the day**
Dr Ulrich Kuhlmann, Executive Director, Global Operations

0845 – 0930 **Reporting back on outcomes of the break-out group discussion 1**

Session 3: New CABI initiatives / products (Panorama Room)

Co-Chairpersons: **Mr William Vanterpool**, Director of Agriculture, Ministry of Agriculture and CABI Liaison Officer for Anguilla, and **Dr Andy Robinson**, Managing Director, Publishing

0930 – 0945 **AgPortal** – a digital agri-advisory service support tool (**Dr Trevor Nicholls**, CEO, CABI)

0945 – 1000 **PestSmart** – an e-learning tool for field diagnostics (**Ms Carol McNamara**, CCO, CABI)

1000 – 1015 **Biopesticide Portal** – a digital tool to facilitate identification, sourcing and application of biocontrol products (**Dr Ulrich Kuhlmann**, Executive Director, Global Operations, CABI)

1015 – 1030 **SciDevNet** – Bringing science & development together through news & analysis (**Mr Nick Ishmael-Perkins**, Lead Technical Advisor, CABI)

1030 – 1100 **Coffee/Tea Break**

Session 4: Priorities for donors and international partners (Panorama Room)

Co-Chairpersons: **Mr Christopher Worrell**, Executive Director, Bahamas Agriculture, Health and Food Safety Authority, and **Mr Nick Ishmael-Perkins**, Lead Technical Advisor, CABI

United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Foreign Agricultural Service, Washington, DC, U.S.A. –

Ms Betsy Baysinger, Director, Trade and Scientific Capacity Building Division, Office of Capacity Building and Development

1100 – 12:00 International Development and Research Centre, Ottawa, ON, Canada – **Mr Santiago Alba-Corral**, Associate Director Food Security

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), Rome, Italy – **Dr Irene Hoffmann**, Secretary of the Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture Climate, Biodiversity, Land and Water Department

1200 – 1300 **Break-out group discussion 2: Reviewing the relevance of priority areas/issues identified in 2015-16 and identifying new priorities**

1300 – 1400 **Networking Buffet Lunch**

Session 5: Wrapping-up (Panorama Room)

Co-Chairpersons: **Mr Michael James**, Senior Agricultural Officer, Ministry of Agriculture, Food, Fisheries and Water Resources Management and CABI Liaison Officer for Barbados, and **Ms Carol McNamara**, CCO, CABI

1400 – 1530 **Reporting back on the outcomes of break-out group discussion 2 and discussion on regional “Priority Areas and Issues For Action”**

1530 – 1600 **Coffee/Tea Break**

1600 – 1630	Feedback from delegates
1630 – 1700	Closing Remarks and Vote of Thanks Dr Trevor Nicholls , Chief Executive Officer, CABI
1900 – 2100	Dinner – by invitation (Mill St. Brewery, 555 Wellington Street, Ottawa)



Friday, 14 September 2018

Field Trip – Central Experimental Farm (CEF) and the Ottawa Research and Development Centre (ORDC) (OPTIONAL)

0830 – 0850	Bus from hotel to Central Experimental Farm
0900 – 1015	Showcasing Canada's Agricultural Research (e.g. CEF, Collections, Biocontrol Research)
1015 – 1045	Coffee/Tea Break
1045 – 12:00	Showcasing Canada's Agricultural Research (continued)
1200 – 1300	Follow up discussion for CABI member country delegates with AAFC representatives
1300 – 1400	Networking Picnic Lunch
1400 – 1430	Bus from Experimental Farm to hotel

Appendix B: Outcomes from the first set of break-out group discussions:

Highlighted issues for CABI strategic areas

Highlighted issue for CABI strategic area	Development communication and digital development
What do you think of CABI's proposed goals and activities?	<p>Development communication:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • focusing on participatory dialogue rather than broadcast messaging is really positive • making sure we clearly demonstrate examples of how programmes actually share lessons learned and celebrate successes • don't forget inter-communal partnerships and co-operation, not just national / international • supporting entrepreneurship is a good opportunity to work with new partners <p>Digital development:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • important that general public can provide citizen reporting – but they need educational support and information materials to help them do this accurately • important to consider consuming open data and information sources (e.g. Global Biodiversity Information Facility). Lots of data out there – pathway data is particularly important for IAS • seek to ensure open source technology where practical <p>General:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • make it clear what scale better decision-making is happening at, and what “delivery at scale” means in practice – include mention of use in policy setting as well as at the farm level • where development communication/digital development support the other priority areas (e.g. value chains, climate change) be clear on which aspects sit here versus in the other area • stress the importance of gender issues



Highlighted issue for CABI strategic area	Development communication and digital development
Within these areas, what are the key opportunities that you see?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collaborations with organizations that either already hold or are gathering data that CABI or partners need. • Building data literacy for stakeholders to take advantage of data revolution. • Multiple channels and ways to get the latest science to (for example) farmer/ rancher in accessible/actionable terms (curation is important here too!) • CABI to support member countries where there are specific needs – e.g. database support. • Use the two-way communication channels– ask stakeholders for feedback on interventions and use this for adaptive management. • Near-real time data enables rapid responses. • Engage youth in agribusiness with digital opportunities. • Interoperability between data and information resources. • Digital tools for smallholders globally to exchange information with each other. • Zone-based / geographically targeted communication, tailored to needs, information-seeking behaviour etc of different groups. • Digital learning tools – e.g. self-paced learning resources. • Machine learning. • Consider the One Health implications – drives behaviours – but also learning opportunities from other sectors. • Seek to influence the role of women in ICT and coding. • Identify useful technologies in one country and take to global level, e.g. fruit flies in Taiwan sensors in traps. • May fit better in value chains and commodities? • Entrepreneurship/basic business skills training for farmers. • Co-operatives. • Development of value-added agricultural products.
What challenges are we likely to encounter?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Challenges of scientific literacy and lay accessibility. • Address the fact that different stakeholders have varying levels of access to ICT, including gender variability (ownership of mobile phones is low among women). • Quality control challenges with citizen science (and with data in general, especially at scale). • Bureaucracy within some governments may block digital developments or uptake of new technology. • Even within developed countries bandwidth and speed of internet access in rural areas is a real issue. • Some sectors of the community are averse to digital technology and won't engage with it. • Issues of trust by the public in science and scientists, e.g. climate, vaccines (flows over from human health). • Capacity across the pipeline of data capture, analysis, use.
Which opportunities do you see as your top priority?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • (Opportunities and challenges that had the most sticker – votes are in bold above)

Highlighted issue for CABI strategic area	Agriculture and climate change
What do you think of CABI's proposed goals and activities?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Don't just look at the negative impacts of climate change but also at the opportunities it might offer, e.g. growing new crops in regions where it was not possible before. CABI could offer Integrated Crop Management/crop diversification advice. • Stress is on climate change adaptation not on resilience – be more proactive rather than reactive. Change language in the statement. • CABI to work with partners on increasing community/farmer awareness on greenhouse gases coming from agricultural activities. • CABI to disseminate more climate research in the form of actionable advice for smallholder farmers. • CABI should focus on adaptation rather than mitigation. • CABI should focus on its core competencies of creating and disseminating good quality actionable information/capacity building and coordination.
Within these areas, what are the key opportunities that you see?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CABI to further promote fertilizer optimization advice as a means to decrease emissions from misuse of fertilizers (e.g. fertilizer optimization app). • CABI to offer advice on how to grow in-ground crops, roots and tubers which could survive hurricanes. • CABI to work with governments to ensure that clean planting materials are available for post-hurricane recovery. • CABI to facilitate access to improved information on seasonal weather events for farmers, so they can make informed decisions (what crops/varieties, what pest to prepare for). • CABI to research options for reducing emissions from ruminants (e.g. research into the microbiome of the rumen). • CABI to provide advice on growing fodder crops which can withstand drought, flooding, hurricanes. • Important to address climate adaptation at a community level, e.g. work with co-operatives and communities for information dissemination. Good community governance is needed in order to have a major impact. • CABI to create linkages with sources of drought- and heat-resistant, pest-tolerant plant material (e.g. working with International Centre for Tropical Agriculture). • CABI to promote climate-resilient crops such as cassava. • CABI to advise governments on how/why to protect genetic resources.
What ongoing country/ regional-level initiatives on climate adaptation/ mitigation offer potential for collaboration?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At the moment, we don't know of regional-level initiatives on climate change adaptation but there is a need for a regional approach and better regional communication and networking. • CABI to help link member countries with organizations that have climate change-related competencies to support farmers and communities.
With CABI's three goals and proposed intervention areas, do you think that CABI needs to consider other member country priorities?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No mention of access to genetic resources, water management or water harvesting; no mention of post-harvest loss. • CABI to develop more extension materials on soil conservation, direct planting, water management and resilient crop varieties (drought-tolerant, flood-tolerant, saline-tolerant). • Position statement should emphasize the need for more publication of climate change-related books (this is a core strength of CABI). • Important to include an education component to educate youth/school children/agricultural communities about threat and response to climate change. • Position statement should include more proactive options rather than just reactive. • Climate change must be a cross-cutting issue for CABI, because climate change intersects with all of what CABI does. Important to not only promote agricultural diversification, but also provide farmers with information on how to grow and market these new crops so they can make informed decisions (Goal 2, third bullet point).

Highlighted issue for CABI strategic area	Plantwise
<p>How can CABI ensure that interventions introduced under Plantwise (e.g. plant clinics and data management systems and the use of ICT tools and apps) get embedded in country systems for agricultural extension or plant protection?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plantwise to make a concerted push to involve more women farmers. • Should the major focus of Plantwise 2.0 be reaching more women farmers and youth? • Plantwise should increasingly link with commodity-specific and general agricultural co-operatives. • CABI should consider schools as a channel for the dissemination of good agricultural practices and information. • Linking plant doctors with local mass-media to increase uptake and reach of Plantwise services. • Host governments of Plantwise should ensure that Plantwise is institutionalized and embedded in their agricultural development plans. • In the Caribbean, Plantwise should focus not only on food crops but also on ornamental plants, because of their importance for the tourism industry. Ministries of tourism should be considered as key partners to support Plantwise in the region.
<p>What regional initiatives better leverage resources with Plantwise for sustained plant health management designed to benefit smallholder farmers?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Caribbean Agricultural Health and Food Safety Agency. • Caribbean Plant Health Director Network to share information.
<p>How can Plantwise be modelled to serve broader needs of stakeholders, including private sector organizations with interest or investments in agricultural value chains?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work with the commodity marketing boards.
<p>Besides the donors currently funding Plantwise implementation globally, which other organizations are active in the region and can be brought on board to sustainably fund the elements of the programme that are high priority for the region?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Involve private sector companies like Nestle, Ferrero, Mondelez etc., as a business-critical investment. Demonstrate impact of pests and diseases on their source crops. • Plantwise should extend its focus beyond production to support farmers in accessing (new) markets. • CABI should explore with private companies the possibility of creating a CABI-managed benefit-sharing fund to sustain Plantwise to support the farmers in their supply chain. • Use economic data from the American Institute of Research impact assessment to convince private sector companies that it is worth investing in Plantwise (positive return on investment). • Encourage governments to use their influence to help lobby the private sector for Plantwise funding.

Highlighted issue for CABI strategic area	Invasive species
What do you think of CABI's proposed goals and activities?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Goal 4: consider including citizen science; point 2: knowledge and technology transfer; gap between science and implementation. • Also missing: early detection, rapid response; CABI needs to make information available to ports on the small Islands. • In terms of taxonomy: network with existing international service providers (e.g. Barcode for Life).
Within these areas, what are the key opportunities that you see?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased participation by general population; opportunity for more engagement. Caribbean: people at the moment see it as a government issue not as their issue. • Encouraging the science in each country to study indigenous biodiversity. Information available on /characterization of indigenous biodiversity would help to respond to IAS threats/ impacts; model that exists is scientists from developed country going to developing country – not ideal. • Citizen science in order to detect and identify IAS. • Prevention: developing and sharing best practices / behavioural change.
What challenges are we likely to encounter?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prevention more challenging; no information available to all small islands. • Lack of taxonomists/taxonomic knowledge to identify invasive species (potential solution: build baseline, e.g. molecular databases). • Not a lot of planning forward in terms of prevention; most likely pathway for IAS to come in. • Access to information of biodiversity from other countries – maybe exists but not shared. • Conflicting interests and who is driving the decisions about IAS management. • People at higher level are not aware of biocontrol, hindering implementation. • When a country gets a new IAS it may not want other countries to know due to trade restrictions. • Mitigating against illegal import (e.g. internet trade).
Comments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How is subgoal 2 under Goal 4 different from goal 3? More an editorial comment. • Position statement: word “prevention” is missing. • Goal 3: gender issue not so clear what is meant exactly; add communication in terms of the policies.

Highlighted issue for CABI strategic area	Value chains and trade
What do you think of CABI's proposed goals and activities?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Position statement: include regional/local markets; markets at all levels (or only markets); consider marketability (consider whole array of product quality). • Position statement and Goal 1: word “resilience” overlaps with climate change theme (confusing). • Goal 2: specifically mention validation of practices utilized – e.g. certification schemes, traceability; ensure that producers are rewarded fairly for their produce; equity across the value chain. • Goal 3: promote the value chains unclear; change wording or put quotes; leave out or re-formulate “secure future”? Learn to adapt to changes; train farmers to become entrepreneurs; remove “a” at beginning or – an adaptive, vibrant value chains. • Goal 2: agricultural diversification requires a market to be successful.
Within these areas, what are the key opportunities that you see?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Opportunity to support the value chain theme using the member countries. • Youth/gender: buzz word for funding. • Recognizing that farmers are using good practices; support successful entrepreneurs; business to business rating; have a price, competition or a kind of rewarding system (e. g. stars), promotion of innovators (so this would be different from a certification system which involves third parties etc.). • How to value ecosystem services? Could be quantified and incorporated in value of product? e.g. problem with pollinators.
What challenges are we likely to encounter?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$\$\$ • Increasingly difficult to obtain sustainable funding; who gets the market to pay? • Unfavourable policies; policy issues independent of market; all of global trade has become political and unpredictable. • Being persistent because it takes time to put value chains in place; linking up value chain actors. • Lack of political will! • Keep the value chain linked (if you lose one part the whole chain breaks down). • Complying with standards; harmonization of standards. • What about the very small countries that are mostly importing? • Robust reporting system plus willingness to change. • Monitoring. • Food safety is part of the value chain; when do you conduct checks? • Building capacity of regulatory authorities. • Traceability / small farmer: does that put up a barrier? That's why co-ops/clusters are promoted.



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