



## **CABI Member Countries Regional Consultation: Asia-Pacific**

**Working in partnership for a sustainable future**

16–19 October 2018, Beijing Friendship Hotel, Beijing, China

**KNOWLEDGE FOR LIFE**

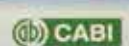


Welcome to CABI's Asia-Pacific Regional Consultation

Working in partnership for a sustainable future

October, 2018, Beijing, China

CABI



CABI'S  
Asia-Pacific  
Regional Consultation

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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.

During 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

Hosted by the Chinese government through the Chinese Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs (MARA) and the Chinese Academy of Agricultural Sciences (CAAS), CABI's Asia-Pacific regional consultation, held on 16–19 October 2018 in Beijing, was attended by over 100 delegates – including some 60 core delegates from 14 CABI member countries (including the UK and Switzerland), two prospective member countries, as well as many international, regional and Chinese partners. A focus on building capacity for stronger value chains and trade links, as part of the overall mission to improve global food security, was high on the agenda at the consultation. Delegates were given an opportunity to visit the research facilities of the Institute of Plant Protection (IPP) at CAAS and the Joint Laboratory of MARA and CABI, which marked its 10th anniversary in 2018.

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 issues. As stated earlier, 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 issues being capacity building and governance and women and youth empowerment, with the ultimate purpose of working towards addressing/contributing to achievement of 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 Asia-Pacific region”
  - CABI's CEO making a presentation to provide an update on the overall progress
  - regional representatives' reviews of the progress in the region
  - other presenters' updates on some of CABI's new initiatives and products
- This was followed by:
  - the highlighting of issues relating to five CABI strategic areas through the circulation of five pre-prepared position statements, and then 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 the priority areas and issues for the Asia-Pacific region with those of 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 for the regional consultation.

The process and outcomes of the key events and sessions during the regional consultation are summarized below.

# Summary of key events and sessions during the regional consultation

## Pre-consultation reception to mark the World Food Day

A pre-consultation reception was held to mark World Food Day on 16 October 2018. During the reception Dr Dennis Rangi, CABI's Director General for Development, made the following remarks: "As we celebrate World Food Day, let's remember that every day nearly one billion people go hungry and are malnourished. This means we must not only work harder, but also smarter, than ever before, to solve global hunger. Agricultural diversification is a positive step to take. Humans are innately adaptable. For example, we're already using insects for feed for animals, as demonstrated in CABI's recent PROTEINSECT project, which explored the use of nutritious fly larvae for animal feed. In some cultures around the world humans eating insects is the norm – the mupane worm in Zimbabwe or silk worms in China and Thailand. ... Smallholder farmers have the power to feed their communities and countries, but they are too often affected by poverty and lack of resources. Much of the food they grow is wasted, lost to pests. Left unaddressed, the future of poor farmers is threatened and uncertain. So empowering smallholder farmers with agricultural knowledge and skills is key to ensuring everyone has access to nutritious food and, at the same, the ability to lift themselves out of poverty."

## Opening session: Medium-Term Strategy review and keynote addresses

Dr Tang Shengyao, Deputy Director General of the Department of International Co-operation at MARA, who was also CABI Executive Council Member for China, opened the meeting. Delegates were welcomed by both Mr Roger Horton, Chair of the CABI Board, and Professor Tang Huajun, President of CAAS and Member of the Leading Party Group of MARA, in their respective welcome addresses.

Mr Roger Horton stated: "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 to and engage directly with its membership. Based on the priorities identified by CABI member countries in 2015–16, we have built more capabilities in the issues identified. We believe these will help our member countries in their endeavour to achieve the SDGs. ... It is particularly fitting that this meeting is being held in Beijing, which gives us the opportunity to celebrate significant milestones in our collaboration. This includes the excellent work of the CABI–China Joint Laboratory for Bio-Safety, which marks its 10th anniversary this year. ... Other important Chinese initiatives, such as the Belt & Road Initiative and "Chinese Agricultural Technology Going Global", also present us with future opportunities for multilateral collaboration, particularly among CABI's member countries."

Professor Tang Huajun stated: "Both industrial and developing countries are facing challenges associated with climate change uncertainties, international trade conflict, malnutrition, global food insecurity and poverty alleviation. International collaboration, especially agricultural collaboration, has therefore become more important than ever in terms of research, trade and the use of resources. China looks forward to working more closely with CABI and its Asia-Pacific member countries to jointly address the major challenges in regional and global agricultural development for a sustainable future through multilateral co-operation."

Dr Trevor Nicholls, CABI's CEO, gave an overview of CABI's capabilities and strengths, as well as key strategic areas, programmes and projects CABI is leading or involved in across the world. He reviewed CABI's progress against the critical milestones of the Medium-Term Strategy 2017–2019: 82% of the critical milestones had been met or were on track, and among the 11% where there was major variance, many were beyond 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 the 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, sustainable, gender-sensitive and climate-smart approaches.

Professor Wu Kongming, Vice President of CAAS, gave a presentation entitled *Strengthening Partnership between China and CABI under the Belt and Road Initiative*. Prof Wu stated: “International co-operation in agricultural science and technology is among the top priorities for the B&R [Belt and Road] Initiative, which, for example, can help prevent and control animal and plant diseases and outbreaks, and facilitate international trade. The Joint Laboratory for Bio-Safety between MARA and CABI, regarded as one of the top platforms of this kind, can build on the outstanding progress achieved over the past 10 years and play a significant role in supporting the B&R Initiative through contributions to the development of the B&R Plant Protection International Consortium and fostering and participating in triangular or multilateral collaboration.”

During the opening session the 10th anniversary of the Joint Laboratory for Bio-Safety between MARA and CABI was celebrated, and a video (slideshow) was shown to delegates to commemorate the founding of the laboratory in 2008. A tripartite MoU between China, CABI and Pakistan on the B&R Plant Protection Consortium under the Joint-Lab programme was also signed.

## Presenting case studies from member countries and partners

This session started with a short ceremony to welcome Afghanistan as CABI's 49th member country (with its official accession to CABI taking place in June 2018), followed by the signing of an MoU on establishing the Joint Laboratory for Biological Control between CABI and the Malaysian Agricultural Research and Development Institute (MARDI).

Addressing member countries' priorities actively and effectively features significantly in CABI's Medium-Term Strategy 2017-19. In this session, delegates from the following four member countries and one prospective member country were invited to articulate their countries' agricultural priorities and strategies, and to present case studies on working in partnership with CABI:

- **Afghanistan:** *Dr Usman Safi, Project Director, National Horticulture Linkage Project, Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation and Livestock.*
- **Myanmar:** *Dr Khin Mar Oo, Director, International Relations Division, Department of Planning, Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation.*
- **Nepal:** *Dr Dilli Ram Sharma, Chief, Plant Quarantine and Pesticide Management Centre, Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock Development.*
- **Pakistan:** *Dr Yusuf Zafar Chairman, Pakistan Agricultural Research Council (given by a representative of the Pakistan Embassy in Dr Zafar's absence).*
- **Sri Lanka:** *Dr W.M.W. Weerakoon, Director General, Department of Agriculture, Government of Sri Lanka.*

In their presentations, these delegates informed CABI and other delegates what priorities and strategies their countries have for sustainable agricultural development and food security, provided some case studies on working in partnership with CABI, identified opportunities for further partnership between CABI and member countries, and proposed the best way forward to strengthen collaboration.

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

## Reviewing progress and prioritizing key issues

This session started with a presentation by CABI's Regional Directors entitled *CABI in the Asia-Pacific – 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.

In order to address member countries' needs better, to build upon CABI's core strengths and to 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 on the position statements regarding these five select strategic areas. In particular, the goals, opportunities and challenges of these strategic areas were identified and discussed, and member countries' commitments were sought.

A sub-session on value chains and trade was held to focus on building capacity for stronger value chains and trade links, as part of the overall mission to improve global food security. The following presentations were given by CABI and partners, including those from the private sector:

- CABI's strategy for value chains and trade – Dr George Oduor, Global Director, Value Chains and Trade, CABI
- Sustainable agriculture in China (with a particular reference to value chains and trade) – Ms Kerry Wang, Product Stewardship Manager, Syngenta
- Agricultural co-operation in the Asia-Pacific region: Current status, outlook and reflections – Professor Nie Fengying, Deputy Director General, Agricultural Information Institute, CAAS
- Global scenario of the coconut sector – Mr Uron Salum, Executive Director, Asian-Pacific Coconut Community
- Bayer Forward Farming – sustainable agriculture in practice – Dr Phoebe Chen, Lead of Bayer Forward Farming China Project, Bayer Crop Science

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 Asia-Pacific regional consultation**

Strategic areas/programme	Feedback
Plantwise	Explore opportunities for private sector funding; broaden country base; find channels to establish in other countries with extra or their own funding resources (e.g. Philippines, Malaysia, DPR Korea); CABI's role should move to co-ordination/quality assurance not local implementation; extend coverage to soil, seeds and small animals.
Development communication and digital development	Use multiple channels, ways and languages; integrate with current existing platforms, systems and national projects; clearer separation of short and long term; recognize challenges of language, literacy and network restrictions; ICTs valuable in early warning and scale-up but only as part of broader communications mix.
Invasive species	Promote citizen science to help detect and identify invasive alien species; increase capacity for forecasting, early warning and rapid response; build capacity and capability in respect of regulatory and policy environment; help to develop supporting infrastructure and sanitary and phytosanitary (SPS) support; catalyse regional approaches and integration.
Agriculture and climate change	Disseminate more climate research in the form of actionable advice for smallholder farmers; seize publishing and knowledge management opportunities; support uptake and adoption of climate-resilient varieties; crop diversification.
Value chains and trade	To include contract farming support development of farmer-based organizations and build business skills and reduce need for middleman farmers need to know about market quality/safety requirements; support them to meet international standards, develop national/local best practice standards; Plantwise ecosystem as a quality mark.



## New CABI initiatives and products

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

- AgPortal – a digital agri-advisory service support tool
- Biopesticide Portal – a digital tool to facilitate the identification, sourcing and application of biocontrol products

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.

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

A second set of break-out group discussions was held. The objectives were to:

- review the relevance and importance to the respective sub-regions 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: Central and West and South Asia – Afghanistan (2 delegates), Bangladesh, Nepal and Sri Lanka, plus partners like the Central Asian and Southern Caucasus Association of Agricultural Research Institutions (CACAAARI)
- Group 2: East and South-East Asia, and the South Pacific – Australia, China (3 delegates), DPR Korea (2 delegates), Malaysia (2 delegates), Myanmar (2 delegates), Philippines, Papua New Guinea and Vietnam, plus partners like the Asian-Pacific Coconut Community

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



**Table 2: Priorities reviewed at the Asia-Pacific 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)

<b>Priority areas</b> <b>In support of Global Goals 1, 2, 12, 15, 17 and COP21</b>	<b>Priority issues</b>
<p>Development of trade and market access for safe food, domestically, regionally and internationally</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Provide advice and support for farmers</b> on aspects such as good agricultural practice compliance; phytosanitary standards and compliance; crop diversification (e.g. high-value horticulture); post-harvest management; improving the quality of agricultural inputs; <b>input use efficiency, including seeds</b>; and improving access to market information, improved technology and improved range management for livestock.</li> <li>• <b>Provide support for market access along value chains</b> (e.g. <b>packing house, providers and storage</b>), including SPS compliance and standards harmonization, food safety, <b>traceability and security of the supply chain</b>.</li> <li>• <b>Stimulate the creation of farmer organizations</b>, develop entrepreneurial and commercial skills and risk management skills and improve access to affordable credit.</li> <li>• <b>Strengthen support for food safety</b>, including information on legislative and regulatory requirements, prevention of mycotoxins, <b>anti-microbials resistance and low-cost detection systems</b>; <b>promote bio-safety guidelines for genetically modified crops</b>, maximum residue levels, heavy metal contamination, animal health and welfare, zoonotic diseases and the safe use of veterinary drugs; <b>short-term climate forecasting systems</b>.</li> <li>• <b>Develop public-private partnerships</b> to support smallholder market access along value chains, including SPS compliance and standards harmonization and food safety.</li> <li>• <b>Inform and support</b> on-farm/off-farm processing facilities along the value chain, and produce/yields forecast for markets channels.</li> <li>• <b>Promote and consolidate contract farming</b>, contract farmer / farmer co-operatives with supper markets, and shorten the market chains.</li> </ul>
<p>Knowledge management, communication and use</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Improve communication</b> 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 use of ICTs (including e-monitoring an evaluation, e-statistics and e-vouchers).</li> <li>• Expand the scope of CABI's support to <b>advisory services</b> to include soil health, selection of crop and seed varieties, integrated water and land management, animal health and welfare.</li> <li>• 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.</li> <li>• <b>Promote the use of communication tools</b> for illiterate audiences, such as <b>videos</b> (particularly for women).</li> <li>• <b>Ensure</b> enhanced authentications/validation of the content for mass dissemination.</li> <li>• <b>Support</b> the development of systems/resources tool kits, especially for climate change adoption and mitigation (e.g. knowledge bank)</li> </ul>

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



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"> <li>Facilitate knowledge transfer in <b>South–South interactions</b> involving member countries.</li> <li><b>Provide information and training resources</b> to support sustainable agro-tourism and other non-farm rural employment, particularly for women and youth.</li> <li><b>Build individual, institutional and regional capacity</b> to develop and encourage agricultural innovation systems.</li> <li><b>Reinforce and expand linkages</b> between the scientific community, universities, government and farmer associations.</li> <li>Develop public–private partnership to <b>support smallholder market access along value chains</b>, including SPS compliance and standards harmonization and food safety.</li> <li>Assist national services with <b>information and data management</b>, 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.</li> <li><b>Ensure</b> that social and environmental safeguarding checks /approaches are integrated into implementation to avoid unintended negative effects.</li> <li><b>Advocate</b> and promote water-saving technologies.</li> </ul>
<p>New</p> <p>Public–private partnerships</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Support</b> in designing and promoting grant management systems and processes, especially for remote and marginalized community groups.</li> <li><b>Promote and facilitate</b> access to finance and approaches which enhance the operating capacity of enterprises.</li> <li>Get involved in direct capacity building of stakeholders.</li> <li>Assist in training of small and medium-sized enterprises on the simplification of processes.</li> </ul>

## Promoting win-win partnerships

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

- Australian Department of Agriculture and Water Resources** – *Dr Ian Naumann, Director, SPS Capacity Building Program, Plant Biosecurity*
- CACAARI** – *Academician Guram Aleksidze, Chairman, CACAARI, and President, Georgian Academy of Science*
- Consortium of International Agricultural Research Centers** – *Dr Lu Xiaoping, Deputy Director General, International Potato Center-China Centre for Asia-Pacific*
- International Network for Bamboo and Rattan** – *Mr Brian Cohen, Global Programme Director*
- MARDI** – *Datuk Dr Mohamad Roff Mohd Noor, Director General*
- Swiss Agency for Development and Co-operation** – *Mr Felix Fellmann, Counsellor, Head of International Co-operation Division, Swiss Embassy in China*

## 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 the 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 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 agriculture value chains and food system; define women groups; and set clear baselines and target results for women.

Dr Nicholls noted that confirmed by the delegates of our member countries, the previous 9 five priority areas and four cross-cutting areas are still very relevant, but with increasing emphasis on:

- value chains and market access – high-value and indigenous crops, but with a “whole of chain” approach covering SPS, traceability and biosecurity
- climate-smart agriculture in practice, including water use
- an integrated approach to crop and livestock production, protection and processing – roles for women and youth
- knowledge management/advisory on livestock/zoonoses
- digital development, language and literacy
- invasive pathways – proactive, early warning and rapid response, not reactive defence
- use of microbial resources
- the social and environmental impact of projects and safeguards for women and youth
- promoting and building the business skills of farmers
- evidence-based policy development

Dr Nicholls informed the 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% gave the top two scores for the overall ranking, i.e. very satisfied and satisfied. Positive comments included the following: “As indicated in the programme, all the objectives are met, such as having opportunities to network with CABI staff and member countries”; “I am much better informed to activate meaningful collaboration with CABI going forward”; and “Broad discussions made a meaningful consultation”. However, there were also suggestions for improvement: “More discussions should be arranged and more time (three days) should be given to the meeting”, and “More participation from focal point representatives of the various donor organizations should be invited”.

## **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 (i.e. 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

16–19 October 2018, Beijing Friendship Hotel, Beijing, China



## Tuesday, 16 October 2018

Morning/Afternoon **Arrival of delegates**

1730 – 1830 **Registration** (No. 8 Meeting Room, Youyi [Friendship] Palace)

18.30 – 20.30 **Welcome Reception and Celebration of World Food Day** (Juxiuyuan Restaurant, Youyi [Friendship] Palace)  
Welcome remarks by Dr Trevor Nicholls, Chief Executive Officer, CABI  
Speech by Dr Dennis Rangi, Director General for Development, CABI



## Wednesday, 17 October 2018 (Meeting Room No.7, Youyi [Friendship] Palace)

0800 – 0900 **Registration** (Outside of Meeting Room No.7, Youyi [Friendship] Palace)

### Opening Plenary Session: Medium-term Strategy Review and Keynote Addresses

Chairperson: **Dr Tang Shengyao**, DDG, International Co-operations, Chinese Ministry of Agricultural and Rural Affairs (MARA) and CABI Executive Council member for China

0900 – 0915 **Welcome address from CABI**  
**Mr Roger Horton**, Chair of CABI Board

**Welcome address from China**  
**Professor Tang Huajun**, President, Chinese Academy of Agricultural Sciences and Member of the Leading Party Group of MARA

0915 – 0945 **CABI: Progress updates and medium-term strategy review**  
**Dr Trevor Nicholls**, Chief Executive Officer, CABI

0945 – 1005 **Strengthening Partnership between China and CABI under the Belt and Road Initiative**  
**Professor Wu Kongming**, Vice President, Chinese Academy of Agricultural Sciences

1005 – 1030 **Celebration of 10th anniversary of the Joint Laboratory for Bio-safety between MARA and CABI**

1030 – 1120 **Group Photo and Networking Break**

### Session 1: Presenting national priorities and case studies on working in partnerships with CABI

Chairpersons: **Mr Mohd Faizal Bin Harun**, Undersecretary of International Division, Ministry of Agriculture and Agro-based Industries and CABI Liaison Officer for Malaysia, and **Dr Qiaoqiao Zhang**, Director, Memberships, CABI

1120 – 1130 **Welcoming Afghanistan as CABI's 49th Member Country and Signing of MoU between CABI and Malaysian Agricultural Research and Development Institute (MARDI)**



<b>Presentations from member countries and prospective member countries (5 x15 minutes)</b>	
1130 – 1300	<b>Afghanistan:</b> <b>Dr Usman Safi</b> , Project Director, National Horticulture Linkage Project, Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation and Livestock
	<b>Myanmar:</b> <b>Dr Khin Mar Oo</b> , Director, International Relations Division, Department of Planning, Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation
	<b>Nepal:</b> <b>Dr Dilli Ram Sharma</b> , Chief, Plant Quarantine and Pesticide Management Centre, Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock Development
	<b>Pakistan:</b> by the representative from the Pakistan Embassy on behalf of <b>Dr Yusuf Zafar (T.I)</b> , Chairman, Pakistan Agricultural Research Council
	<b>Sri Lanka:</b> <b>Dr W.M.W. Weerakoon</b> , Director General, Department of Agriculture, Government of Sri Lanka
1300 – 1400	<b>Lunch</b> – Ground Floor Restaurant, Youyi (Friendship) Palace
<b>Session 2: Reviewing regional progress and highlighting key issues of select strategic areas</b>	
1400 – 1430	Chairpersons: <b>Mr Choe Chol Ho</b> , Director, Department of International Science and Technology Exchange, Academy of Agricultural Sciences and CABI Liaison Officer for DPR Korea, and <b>Dr Ulrich Kuhlmann</b> , Executive Director, Global Operations, CABI
	<b>CABI in Asia-Pacific – partnerships and action</b> <b>Dr Babar Bajwa</b> , Regional Director, CABI Central and West Asia
<b>Sub-session: Value Chains and Trade (5 x 15 minutes)</b>	
1430 – 1600	<b>CABI's Strategy for Value Chains &amp; Trade</b> – <b>Dr George Oduor</b> , Global Director, Value Chains and Trade, CABI
	<b>Sustainable Agriculture in China</b> (with a particular reference to the Value Chains) – <b>Ms Kerry Wang</b> , Product Stewardship Manager, Syngenta
	<b>Agricultural Cooperation in Asian-Pacific Region: Current Status, Outlook and Reflection</b> – <b>Professor Nie Fengying</b> , DDG, Agricultural Information Institute, CAAS
	<b>Global Scenario of Coconut Sector</b> – <b>Mr Uron Salum</b> , Executive Director, Asian-Pacific Coconut Community
	<b>Bayer Forward Farming – Sustainable Agriculture in Practice</b> – <b>Dr Phoebe Chen</b> , Lead of Bayer Forward Farming China Project, Bayer Crop Science
<b>Questions and Answers</b>	
1600 – 1630	<b>Networking Break</b>
1630 – 1715	<b>Plenary discussions</b> – Value Chains & Trade
<b>Sub-session: CABI's new products (10 minutes x 2)</b>	
1715 – 1745	<b>AgPortal</b> – a digital agri-advisory service support tool ( <b>Dr Trevor Nicholls</b> , Chief Executive Officer, CABI)
	<b>PestSmart</b> – an eLearning tool for field diagnostics ( <b>Ms Carol McNamara</b> , Chief Commercial Officer, CABI)
1900 – 2200	<b>Official Dinner (Jointly Hosted by China and CABI)</b> – First Floor, Sishitongtang Restaurant



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### Session 3: Highlighting and prioritising key issues

0830 – 0840	<p><b>Chairpersons:</b> <b>Dr Akkinappally Ramakrishna</b>, Deputy Director General, National Agricultural Research Institute, Papua New Guinea and <b>Mrs Caroline McNamara</b>, Chief Commercial Officer, CABI</p> <p><b>Introduction: Objectives of the day</b>  <b>Dr Ulrich Kuhlmann</b>, Executive Director, Global Operations, CABI</p>
0840 – 0940	<p><b>Key issues of select strategic areas:</b> CABI presentations (4 x 15 minutes)  <b>Plantwise</b> – <b>Dr Feng Zhang</b>, Regional Director, CABI East Asia  <b>Development Communication and Digital Development</b> – <b>Ms Dannie Romney</b>, Global Director, Development, Communication and Extension  <b>Agriculture and Climate Change</b> – <b>Mr Gopi Ramasamy</b>, Regional Director, CABI South Asia  <b>Invasive Species</b> – <b>Dr A Sivapragasam</b>, Regional Director, CABI Southeast Asia and South Pacific</p>
0940 – 1115	<p><b>Break-out Discussions 1: Highlighted issues of CABI strategic areas</b> (3 groups)  Invasive Species  Development Communication and Digital Development  Agriculture and Climate Change and Plantwise</p>
1115 – 1135	<p><b>Networking Break</b></p>
1135 – 1215	<p><b>Reporting back on group discussions 1 and plenary discussions</b> (4 x10 minutes)</p>
1215 – 1300	<p><b>Break-out Discussions 2: Reviewing the relevance of previous priorities and identifying new emerging priorities</b></p>
1300 – 1400	<p><b>Lunch</b> – Ground Floor Restaurant, Youyi (Friendship) Palace</p>

### Session 4: Promoting win-win partnership

1400 – 1520	<p><b>Chairpersons:</b> <b>Dr Digna Sandoval</b>, Head, Institutional Development Division, Bureau of Agricultural Research, Philippines and <b>Dr Dennis Rang</b>, DG for Development, CABI</p> <p><b>Panel of funders and partners</b> (7 x 10 minutes)  <b>Australian DAWR</b> – <b>Dr Ian Naumann</b>, Director, SPS Capacity Building Program, Plant Biosecurity, Department of Agriculture and Water Resources  <b>CACAARI</b> – <b>Academician Guram Aleksidze</b>, Chairman, The Central Asian and Southern Caucasus Association of Agricultural Research Institutions, and President, Georgian Academy of Agricultural Sciences  <b>CGIAR</b> – <b>Dr Lu Xiaoping</b>, Deputy Director General, CIP-China Centre for Asia Pacific  <b>INBAR</b> – <b>Mr Brian Cohen</b>, Global Programme Director, International Bamboo and Rattan Organisation  <b>MARDI</b> – <b>Datuk Dr Mohamad Roff Mohd Noor</b>, Director General, Malaysian Agricultural Research and Development Institute  <b>SDC</b> – <b>Mr Felix Fellmann</b>, Counsellor, Head of International Cooperation Division, Swiss Embassy in China</p>
1520 – 1610	<p><b>Discussions on collaboration with international, regional and sub-regional bodies and other partners</b>  – moderated by <b>Dr Tin Htut</b>, the former Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation, Myanmar</p>
1610 – 1630	<p><b>Networking Break</b></p>

## Session 5: Wrapping-up

**Chairpersons:** **Dr Gong Xifeng**, Director General, International Co-operations, CAAS and CABI Liaison Officer for China and **Mr Roger Horton**, Chair of CABI Board

1630 – 1700 **Reporting back on group discussions 2** (2 x10 minutes)

1700 – 1710 **Feedback from delegates**

**Closing Remarks and Vote of Thanks**

1710 – 1715 **Dr Trevor Nicholls**, Chief Executive Officer, CABI



## Friday, 19 October 2018

**Field Trip – Institute of Plant Protection of the Chinese Academy of Agricultural Sciences (optional)**

0830 Bus departure from No.1 Building (Grand Building), Beijing Friendship Hotel

Overview of the Institute

0900 –1200 Showcasing cutting edge research by various research teams of the Institute

Showcasing research and projects at the Joint Laboratory for Bio-safety between MARA and CABI

**1200 – 1300 Lunch**

1300 –1330 Bus returning to the 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?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Statements and wording of digital development goals are more like objectives.</li> <li>• Language in development communication strategy needs to be more easily understandable.</li> <li>• Don't build systems from scratch, but integrate with current existing platforms, systems, national projects etc.</li> <li>• Need to emphasize evidence for learning and planning.</li> <li>• For digital information from agriculture productions, there are differences among countries. CABI has its advantages in this field, but have to think how to link with national entities or private sectors.</li> <li>• Timeline of the objectives/goals was an interesting point though not clear in document, e.g. some of the approaches in agriculture need quick actions (e.g. pest outbreaks), but some have long-term objectives.</li> <li>• Generation gap is currently an issue in agriculture. With digital and communication combined, it is hoped to attract more youth to participate in agricultural production activities.</li> <li>• Hybrid models should be easy to access.</li> <li>• Needs are changing rapidly with time and we need to be tracking these changes to remain relevant.</li> <li>• CABI has an important role in facilitation and putting things together, the advantages can be more precisely mentioned in the documents to make it clear we are not doing all the research ourselves.</li> <li>• Need to emphasize research partners in Goal 4 of development communication.</li> </ul>





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"> <li>• Digital tools can be combined with various forms of communication (audio, social media, print, TV etc.) and can be applied to many fields of development (e.g. forestry, human health), not only agricultural production.</li> <li>• Satellite geographic data etc to reach the best format, and implemented.</li> <li>• With digital and communication tools, it is hoped to develop good opportunities among partners.</li> <li>• It is hoped that some of the key publications from CABI can be translated into local language versions.</li> <li>• Capacity development around use of digital tools.</li> <li>• Myanmar and other countries – digitization of agricultural information systems is important – collecting statistical data and using this for e-governance. In Sri Lanka systems exist but data quality validation is needed.</li> <li>• Alerts and early warning are an important opportunity.</li> <li>• Use of social media to share information – Facebook in Myanmar (not in China) – telegram in other countries.</li> <li>• Tools for precision farming would be useful.</li> <li>• Capitalizing on the One Belt One Road Initiative – particularly in the Greater Mekong sub-region (Myanmar, Laos, Thailand, Cambodia, South-east China).</li> <li>• In Myanmar – development communication education would be useful.</li> </ul>
What challenges are we likely to encounter?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Access to some social media and agricultural information are limited according to countries.</li> <li>• Early warning is a bottleneck tech, and the utilization of the digital tools and devices/ equipment is challenging.</li> <li>• Network accesses for developing countries is costly (5G costs US\$7 in Afghanistan, US\$15 in Nepal, US\$50 in PNG) and it is better to develop some offline data collection and communication technology.</li> <li>• National institutional imperfections – governments are not ready.</li> <li>• Concerns on the quality of the data obtained Illiteracy, particularly among women and elderly farmers who do a lot of farming.</li> </ul>
Which opportunities do you see as your top priority?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Development of hybrid communication models.</li> <li>• Formulation of the agricultural information systems.</li> <li>• Partnership building and development of a practical strategy beforehand.</li> <li>• Youth.</li> </ul>

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"> <li>• Q2: Can CABI do all these things? All of these are great, but how can CABI do it all? The goal must be achievable, but how to achieve in the next five years. A2: CABI couldn't do it alone, but could facilitate this.</li> <li>• Goal 2: suggest to focus more on climate resilience in agriculture. To help farmers to recover from loss due to climate change, e.g. farmers' insurance could be a solution.</li> <li>• Setting standard for sustainable action.</li> </ul>
Within these areas, what are the key opportunities that you see?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Drought, flood, extreme temperature, invasives, information, research and development.</li> <li>• Curriculum development for all levels, especially for university education and extension. (Publishing is CABI's expertise, and so are knowledge management and knowledge dissemination).</li> <li>• Would be good to give more case studies and good/success stories in publications, e.g. e-books, books.</li> <li>• Facilitate member countries to develop joint projects together. (Research is also an important aspect. Partners from research institutes are interested to study climate change impact). Research plans are very important, and CABI should share more knowledge on climate change with member countries.</li> <li>• Different stakeholders' involvement: work together with farmers, government agencies, researchers etc to address climate change-related issues.</li> <li>• Climate-friendly business with value chain.</li> <li>• Identify regional specific priorities, create public awareness, facilitate inter-country technology transfer, contribute to policy development, and institutionalize climate change in decision-making</li> <li>• Crop/varieties' change and adaptation is one of the methods for climate change adaptation and increased resilience.</li> <li>• Integrate climate change in sustainable crop and livestock agri-system.</li> </ul>

Highlighted issue for CABI strategic area	Plantwise
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?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Integrating Plantwise in the national programme is the key.</b></li> <li>• <b>Key work:</b> Scale-up, scale-out, integration, mainstreaming in the main systems, developing sustainable investment plan with Plantwise countries, and institutional arrangements.</li> </ul>
What regional initiatives better leverage resources with Plantwise for sustained plant health management designed to benefit smallholder farmers?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Big potential in subregional and regional co-operation over more countries. Asia network would be very helpful to facilitate migratory pest management in the region. When pests occur in some countries, other countries could be alerted and do some preparation for the possible coming pests.</li> <li>• Update training curriculum and how to make business a part of the curriculum.</li> <li>• Plantwise is integrated with the Farmer Field School approach.</li> </ul>
How can Plantwise be modelled to serve broader needs of stakeholders, including private sector organizations with interest or investments in agricultural value chains?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Farmers' co-operatives/organizations</b> are another stakeholder group to work together with.</li> <li>• Don't focus just on pests and disease, but also provide crop production and seeds and cover other aspects of farming, even help farmers to understand market more, and implementation of agro-production standards.</li> </ul>
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?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>E-based crowd funding.</b></li> <li>• <b>Private sector</b> funding to support sustainable agriculture, Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation is another possible funder. Emphasize public–private partnership.</li> <li>• Some <b>local governments</b>, not national level, are very interested to implement Plantwise, and willing to invest.</li> <li>• Plantwise could go to more new countries (e.g. <b>Malaysia, DPR Korea and Philippines</b>) to request to open clinics in their countries with their own funding sources. (Extension system belongs to government, just the information transfer is a bit slow. How to embed Plantwise in the existing system?)</li> <li>• <b>Philippines</b> could help lobby <b>Asian Development Bank's funding</b> for Plantwise in Philippines.</li> <li>• Development of country-specific plant health/extension policy.</li> <li>• How to integrate things in one solution. e.g. <b>one-stop shop plant clinic</b> (IPM community resource centre/ farmer learning resource centre).</li> <li>• CABI should work at the co-ordination level, not go to the local implementation level.</li> </ul>

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"> <li>• <b>Goal 1: Suggestion to include</b> zoonotic diseases, such as bird flu, as part of invasive species.</li> <li>• <b>Goal 1:</b> Activity 3 <b>suggestion</b> to consider across the value chain.</li> <li>• <b>Goal 2: suggestion</b> to add new activity 'identification of species from Nepal'.</li> <li>• <b>Goal 3</b> (Strengthened policies and <b>plans</b> for invasive species management): <b>suggestion</b> – 'Strengthened policies and strategies for invasive species management'.</li> <li>• <b>Goal 3:</b> Assist countries to develop and implement national invasive species strategies, action/<b>responsive plans</b>, ecosystem management plans and biosecurity plans.</li> <li>• <b>Goal 3:</b> Additional activity to assist and encourage national governments to adopt respective plant health programme.</li> <li>• <b>Goal 4:</b> Shorten and make more precise – 'Effective prevention and management of invasive species' (partner).</li> </ul>
Within these areas, what are the key opportunities that you see?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To develop capacity.</li> <li>• To strengthen the existing policy of the country.</li> <li>• To strengthen the existing quarantine system and extension services.</li> <li>• To strengthen border monitor and control for SPS (within and between countries).</li> <li>• CABI to support and co-ordinate the integration with national invasive alien species/development programmes, strengthen existing institutional arrangements and also formulate investment plans.</li> <li>• To encourage national programme to prepare farmers' primer on invasive species using farmer-friendly communication tools.</li> <li>• To encourage collaboration between invasive species networks and other intelligent communities.</li> <li>• To assess risks of invasive species.</li> </ul>
What challenges are we likely to encounter?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Weak quarantine facilities.</li> <li>• Weak knowledge of invasive alien species.</li> <li>• Incoherent policy and implementation.</li> <li>• Institutional barriers in the country.</li> <li>• Allocation of resources in the local and national government.</li> <li>• Lacking best practices.</li> <li>• Grey areas (environmental noise) in identification of risks associated with sample viruses from different sources.</li> <li>• Definition of invasive species, e.g. some species already existing in the region but unknown.</li> <li>• Consider private sector sanctions.</li> </ul>
Which opportunities do you see as your top priority?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Infrastructure/info-structure.</li> <li>• Capacity building.</li> <li>• Funding.</li> <li>• Public awareness.</li> <li>• Forecasting, prevention, early warning system, rapid response measures.</li> <li>• Integrating with climate change.</li> </ul>



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"> <li>• Include some key words, e.g. product or food safety, phytosanitary measures, pest list, etc.</li> <li>• The goals are largely trade in a market economy. They are good but must be aligned to CABI's mandate.</li> <li>• Branding a product is important and is missing in the document.</li> <li>• In Goal 1 include improving natural resource management– including soil and water, soil health, etc.</li> <li>• Elaborate on biodiversity to deal with climate conditions.</li> <li>• Include contract farming to link farmers to market and reduce need for middleman – farmers need to know about market quality requirements so they can deliver.</li> </ul>
Within these areas, what are the key opportunities that you see?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Databases and online resources or portals that anybody can use to identify market requirements of importing countries. Creating these information resources requires: 1) managing content and packaging in a way suitable for the country; and 2) building the IT infrastructure. Australia has just built two such databases –Marcom and bicomfor export and import. It is, however, expensive to set up and run.</li> <li>• CABI as a certifying body? (However, it was noted that whereas CABI can assist value chain partners to comply with set standards (through capacity building), it cannot issue phytosanitary certificates as this is the domain of national plant protection organizations.)</li> <li>• CABI could use plant doctors to support countries in complying with specific standards, and also through joint programmes and workshops to make national co-ordinators aware of International Plant Protection Convention obligations and to encourage the understanding of the link to Plantwise.</li> <li>• Align our goals/activities to key partners, e.g. International Plant Protection Convention, to facilitate collaboration.</li> </ul>
What challenges are we likely to encounter?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Even as we strive to work together with partners, we should be cognisant of the fact that in trade all countries do compete. CABI works as an honest broker among competitors.</li> <li>• For developing countries and especially less developed countries, biggest challenge is the limited human resources, even if made available tomorrow.</li> <li>• Most smallholder farmers have very little knowledge – we have to train and reward them.</li> <li>• Changing mind-set of smallholder farmers from subsistence farming to farming as a business. They need not only agronomic but entrepreneurial skills.</li> <li>• Need to identify key assumptions that underpin the goals as if the assumptions don't hold true the rest collapses – e.g. the FARM project in Myanmar has great goals but the assumption is that the extension service is good and that people are aware of technologies – can't achieve goal if these assumptions are not true.</li> <li>• Lack of effective production, productivity and quality enhancing technologies – across the value chain. When these are available, there aren't sufficient dissemination approaches to ensure that target beneficiaries properly apply these technologies, i.e. access to technologies and how to use them properly.</li> </ul>







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