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INAUGURAL MEETING
CAREC SPS REGIONAL WORKING GROUP
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Session 2 – Plant Health Measures for Trade

**KEY OUTCOMES OF CAREC POLICY DIALOGUE ON
REGIONAL PEST SURVEILLANCE PROGRAMME**

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Outline

- Background - Regional Plant Health Policy Dialogue (Tbilisi, March 2019)
- Issues emerging from the Regional Plant Health Policy Dialogue
- Critical plant health activities proposed for 2019-20
- Conclusions

Background - Regional Plant Health Policy Dialogue (Tbilisi, March 2019)

- Under CAREC project TA 9500 (Modernizing Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures to Facilitate Trade, a Regional Plant Health Dialogue was held in Tbilisi, Georgia 25-27 March 2019
- The primary aim was to develop a regional programme with the theme of **pest surveillance**.
- The emerging **Plant Health Concept Note** included the following agreed regional coordination mechanisms for 2019-21:
 - *Institutional and legislative prerequisites*
 - secondary regulations to be aligned with international standards, e.g. ISPM 6 (assuming NPPO established)
 - mentoring on Pest Risk Analysis
 - *Surveillance for identified regional priority pests, using rapid test kits and pheromone traps*
 - *Joint pest surveillance to provide Pest Free Areas on selected export crops*
 - *Development of pest surveillance guidelines and procedures manual for the CAREC region*
 - *Capacity building for CAREC pest surveillance staff*
 - *Development of a CAREC A1/A2 quarantine and regulated non-quarantine pest lists as a guide to the development of national pest lists*
 - *Establishment of a regional pest surveillance database/web portal for information sharing, i.e. list of major crops to be surveyed, outbreak measures, pest spread mapping, pest alerts, etc.*

Issues emerging from the regional Plant Health Policy Dialogue to be addressed 2019-21

Thematic Cluster	Proposed Regional Initiatives	In Coordination with Development Partners – EPPO, USAID-CT
1. Legal framework for trade-related measures	1.1 Alignment of plant health legislation to IPPC principles	Support from USAID-CTJ in UZB and, potentially, in other C5 countries
	1.2 Understanding the impact on trade of new EU Regulations on plant health, invasive alien species and official controls.	
2. Information portal	2.1 Establishment of a CAREC pest surveillance database/web portal for information sharing	
3. Development of a CAREC A1 (pests absent in the region)/ A2 (locally present in the region) quarantine pest lists	3.1 Pest Risk Analysis (PRA)	PRA training for C5 countries in collaboration with USAID-CTJ and EPPO
4. Pest Surveillance	4.1 Surveillance for selectively identified regional priority pests	Collaboration with USAID-CTJ on pest surveillance initiatives in C5 countries
	4.2 Joint pest surveillance to establish Pest Free Areas on selected export crops	
	4.3 Development of a manual for pest surveillance guidelines and procedures for the CAREC region	
	4.4 Capacity building for CAREC pest surveillance staff	Collaboration with EPPO countries' diagnostic laboratories

IPPIC - International Plant Protection Convention; CTJ - *United States Agency for International Development-Competitiveness, Trade and Jobs Project*

EPPO - European and Mediterranean Plant Protection

Recognizing the challenges posed on individual CAREC member countries by SPS modernization:

Key regional cooperation activities proposed for 2019-20

Thematic cluster (from slide 4)	Regional cooperation agenda	Suggested Action Plan Priorities
1. Legal framework for trade-related measures	1.1 Develop legislative toolkit to ensure legislation is harmonized with key WTO and IPPC requirements	Based on international standards and EPPO Global Database, mentoring and/or workshops on legislative review and drafting
	1.2. Develop understanding of new EU regulations on plant health, invasive alien species and official controls	Start with GEO, AZE (EU partnership)
3. CAREC A1 and A2 pest lists	Develop common PRA management plan; regional support for national PRA team through data collection and sharing	Regional/sub-regional PRA training for identification of regional quarantine pest threats through PRA
4. Pest surveillance	Develop regional manual for pest surveillance (in cooperation with	Develop training materials such as regional guidelines for pest

Conclusions

Delegates are asked to focus their deliberations on the proposals for activities in 2019-20 (slide 5) for adoption in the CAREC programme, while bearing in mind the wider agenda for 2019-21 (slide 4)

Thank you for your attention.