

National Plant Biosecurity RD&E Strategy Implementation Committee

Meeting 12

Face to face, Plant Health Australia, 1 Phipps Close, Deakin.

8th December, 2015

10am – 2:30pm

Attendees

Name	Organisation
Dr Clive Noble (Chair)	Independent Chair
Mr Greg Fraser	PHA
Dr Satendra Kumar	NSW DPI
Mr Tim Lester	CRRDC
Dr Suzy Perry	QDAF
Dr Kim Ritman	DAWR
Dr Michael Robinson	PBCRC
Dr Simone Warner	DEDJTR Vic
Mr Rod Turner (Strategy Leader)	PHA
Dr Victoria Ludowici (Executive Officer)	PHA

Via teleconference

Telephone: 1800 654 971

Participant code: 542 502 79

Name	Organisation
Dr Gary Fitt	CSIRO
Dr Rob Loughman	DAFWA
Dr Rosalie McCauley	DAFWA

Apologies

Name	Organisation
Mr David Moore	HIAL
Mr Mike Ashton	QDAF

Key Dates

22nd December Forum/conference teleconference
10th February 2016- Meeting 13 Canberra
24th February 2016- AGSOC Research and Innovation (R&I) Committee meeting
22, 24 and 29th March 2016- PHA Annual Operating Plan meetings in Canberra, Melbourne and Brisbane respectively
31st May 2016- PHA Plant Industry Forum, EPPRD Parties meeting and General Meeting
18, 19, 20 or 25, 26, 27 July 2016- Plant Biosecurity RD&E Forum (tentative)

Meeting Summary

The committee discussed the progress of the Plant Biosecurity CRC (PBCRC) "Sustainable RD&E system to support National Plant Health" project. The final report (Report C) is due to be released before Christmas. A fourth report will be written by an independent consultant and will be released for broad consultation in April 2016.

The fruit fly audit was considered by the committee who made recommendations regarding clarification of the methodology and key findings which will be passed on to the Fruit Fly Council. The committee requested that the R&D elements of the report be provided back to the committee for consideration when signed off by the Fruit Fly Council.

A forum steering committee was formed and was tasked to meet before Christmas to draft a budget, agree on a venue, keynote speakers and participants.

The committee also discussed a series of key performance indicators that were presented at the last meeting and it was agreed they will be further developed out of session.

Agenda Items 1 and 2: Welcome and Apologies

The Chair welcomed all to the twelfth meeting of the Implementation Committee. Apologies were received from David Moore and Mike Ashton.

Agenda Item 3 – Review of Action Items from Meeting

Progress on the individual Action items arising from the previous meetings were discussed. Individual Action Items to be covered through the agenda of this meeting were deferred to the appropriate Agenda Item. A number of Action Items were noted as complete.

The membership of the committee was discussed. The AGSOC R&I Committee will need to be informed that AGWA will be on the committee and for the time being GRDC will be kept informed of committee activities until a GRDC representative can be found.

Action: Executive to inform AGSOC R&I Committee of addition of changes to committee membership
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Action: Executive Officer to add GRDC to committee distribution list
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The information sources and questions sent out for the fruit fly audit were circulated to the committee. The committee discussed its role in this audit. It was agreed that once the audit had been reviewed and updated, the committee should write a one-page summary of the findings and upload the summary document to the website.

Action: PHA to update fruit fly audit and write a draft one-page summary to be presented at meeting 13

PHA contacted CSIRO regarding the northern Australia Audit. CSIRO advised that a response to the audit questions had not been obtained from NT DPIF or DAFWA. PHA advised that NT DPIF had a new acting chief plant health manager and would pass her details onto CSIRO.

Action: DAFWA to follow up on questions for northern Australia audit

Action: PHA to pass NT DPIF acting chief plant health manager's contact details on to CSIRO

Action: CSIRO to contact acting chief plant health manager for NT DPIF regarding northern Australia audit

The Chair had discussed the Environmental Biosecurity Strategy with DAWR out of session. This strategy is currently being updated by the National Biosecurity Committee (NBC) secretariat. This strategy will be referred to CSIRO for input as the authors of the strategy before going to NBC for consideration. Currently there is not an 'owner' of this strategy. There are links between the Environmental Biosecurity Strategy and this committee and the Chair asked if the committee should implement the Environmental Biosecurity Strategy. It was decided that this issues should be discussed at a future date when the strategy review had been completed and NBC made a decision on it. DAWR advised there are currently no timelines associated with this review. They suggested that the committee should submit a paper to NBC pointing out the areas of linkage between the National Plant Biosecurity Strategy and the Environmental Biosecurity Strategy.

Action: PHA to draft a paper of linkages between the National Plant Biosecurity RD&E Strategy and the Environmental Biosecurity Strategy to be sent to NBC secretariat with reference to the National Plant Biosecurity Status Report

The horticulture extension audit was circulated at meeting 10. GRDC have been unable to locate the grains extension audit. It was noted that other strategies may have completed audits including audits of extension.

Rather than contact each of the strategies it was suggested that the AGSOC R&I Committee may have a schedule of which strategies have completed audits and contacting the AGSOC R&I Secretariat would be an easier option.

Action: Executive to contact AGSOC R&I Secretariat and ask if there is a schedule of those strategies which have completed audits

Agenda Item 4 – A sustainable RD&E system to support National Plant Health update

The PBCRC provided an update on the "Sustainable RD&E system to support National Plant Health" project. The PBCRC advised that a summary report (referred to as report C) of the outcomes of the two workshops in which ten different potential models to support national plant health has been drafted. Reports A (review of the current biosecurity system in Australia) and B (proposed RD&E models) have also been redrafted and all three reports will be released before Christmas. Report C is now a high level document with not only the outcomes of the workshops but also includes input from the PBCRC's stakeholders.

An independent consultant is being hired to write a fourth report. This report will contain a set of recommendations based on the workshops and further consultation with the PBCRC's stakeholders. This report will be released for consideration by stakeholders by April 2016 and the final report is due to be complete by June 2016. It was noted that the timeline for submissions is very tight and a decision by the PBCRC Board on its wrap up strategy will take place in October or November 2016.

Action: PBCRC to circulate Report C to the committee by Christmas

Agenda Item 5 – Cross Sectoral Priorities Analysis (PHA)

The Executive presented a report on their work in analysing the cross sectoral priorities for the committee to consider. The first part of this work identified pests listed as high priority pests (HPPs) of multiple industries from the PHA industry biosecurity plans and the various PHA resources available for these pests e.g. contingency plans, diagnostic protocols, factsheets etc. The Executive Officer also determined which RDCs and NPIRDEF strategies listed plant biosecurity as an RD&E priority. Any pests named specifically by the RDCs and NPIRDEF strategies were also noted. The Executive Officer then went through the National Plant Biosecurity Status Report (NPBSR) and assigned species names to each of the target pests of the project list.

This report was well received, however, it was noted that some more work needed to be done. The committee noted that a list of outcomes and recommendations were needed and the final report should be presented at the next meeting. The Executive Officer noted that it took a very long time to obtain the required information to ascertain target species names and there needs to be a more efficient way to acquire this information. It was mentioned that one of the

activities outlined in the revised strategy/program logic covered improving the information collected for the NPBSR. The Executive Officer noted that if the method of pest prioritisation was to reflect the framework used by NBC the report could relatively easily be changed. In the paper it was observed that approximately one third of projects could be applied to other sectors with additional RD&E. This was a significant finding and should feed into the recommendations as it presents a gap in the system.

Action: Committee to submit recommendations to the Executive Officer for the Cross sectoral priorities analysis report

Action: Executive to revise Cross sectoral priorities analysis report to include conclusions and recommendations

Agenda Item 6 – Forum/Conference

A programme for the 2016 National Plant Biosecurity RD&E Forum was presented by the forum working group. This programme included seven sessions to be conducted over two days with the goals of:

- Increasing levels of communication, awareness and understanding of cross-sectoral plant biosecurity issues and the ways biosecurity is supported by RD&E;
- Developing a shared understanding of the ways industry and government develop short, medium and long term plant biosecurity RD&E priorities;
- Sharing knowledge and promoting discussion, networking and collaboration across industry, regulators and the research community.

The programme was well received, however, it was noted that six sessions rather than seven may lead to better timing of the forum. It was proposed that July 2016 would be a good time to hold this forum and DAWR suggested inviting the new International Plant Protection Convention Chair to the forum. Both AgriBio (DEDJTR) and EcoSciences (QDAF) were suggested as venues. A conference organiser, keynote speakers, venue and catering would be required however it is expected that participants will cover their own costs. A draft budget is to be presented at the next meeting and both DAWR and PBCRC mentioned that they may be able to help fund this forum. Due to the size of this forum it is likely to be biennial rather than annual.

A steering committee was formed to plan the forum consisting of CSIRO, DAWR, DEDJTR, PHA, QDAF, PBCRC, a PBCRC Horticulture Advisory Panel member (to be determined) and a communications expert. PHA nominated their internal communications expert.

Action: Steering committee (CSIRO, DAWR, DEDJTR, PHA, QDAF, PBCRC) to meet and begin planning conference. Draft budget and resourcing to be presented at the next meeting

Action: Executive Officer to check committee members' availability in July 2016 for forum

Agenda Items 7 & 8– Future Priorities - Update and Discussion and Draft Revised Strategy/Program Logic

At the last meeting a document was presented to the committee which included strategies and key performance indicators and a table detailing activities and responsibilities. This document was well received, in particular the key performance indicators section. Since then the document has been updated and timelines have been added to each of the activities. This document was well received but it was suggested that the wording on the first page was too passive. The Chair asked the committee to provide feedback on the Key Performance Indicators out of session. A revised document will be presented to the committee at the next meeting.

Action: Committee to provide feedback to the Executive Officer on the Key Performance Indicators from the revised Strategy/Program Logic document. PHA to lead the updated paper for presentation at the next meeting

Agenda Item 9 – PHC's Draft Framework for prioritisation of Plant Biosecurity Activities

The Plant Pest Prioritisation Framework and a draft process supporting the framework were presented to the committee for consideration. The framework sets out the policy and principles that the PHC will use to identify national priority pests. PHC is currently running an interim process to identify national priority pests as a proof of concept of pest prioritisation and to guide surveillance efforts through the National Plant Health Surveillance Program and other preparedness activities.

The committee felt that the framework could be useful as an input for the forum. It also could be useful for guiding which gaps in the RD&E systems should be prioritised first. PBCRC and CSIRO asked if they could circulate these two documents amongst their stakeholders. The committee noted that no framework is perfect and felt that it should focus on gaps identified by this process.

Action: PHA to ask DAWR if the PHC Draft Framework for prioritisation of Plant Biosecurity Activities can be circulated to PBCRC and CSIRO's stakeholders and check if PHC requires feedback

Agenda Item 10 – Key messages for communication

No key messages for communication were raised however it was noted that once dates for the forum are proposed the committee's stakeholders should be informed.

Agenda Item 11 – Other Business

No other business was raised.

Agenda Item 12 – Next meeting and close

The next meeting will be held on 10th February in Canberra. The forum/conference will be on the agenda at the next meeting along with the updated Strategy/Program Logic and the AGSOC R&I Committee meeting report.

Action: Executive to draft a paper for the AGSOC R&I Committee meeting in February
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Summary of actions

Action Item	Action	Responsibility	Expected Completion	Status	Comments
Meeting 12					
Agenda Item 3	Executive to inform AGSOC R&I Committee of addition of changes to committee membership	Executive	31.1.16		
	Executive Officer to add GRDC to committee distribution list	Executive Officer	14.1.15	Complete	
	PHA to update fruit fly audit and write a draft one-page summary to be presented at meeting 13	PHA	By next meeting		
	DAFWA to follow up on questions for northern Australia audit	DAFWA	22.1.16		
	PHA to pass NT DPIF acting chief plant health manager's contact details on to CSIRO	PHA	14.1.15	Complete	
	CSIRO to contact acting chief plant health manager for NT DPIF regarding northern Australia audit	CSIRO	22.1.16		

Action Item	Action	Responsibility	Expected Completion	Status	Comments
	PHA to draft a paper of linkages between the National Plant Biosecurity RD&E Strategy and the Environmental Biosecurity Strategy to be sent to NBC secretariat with reference to the National Plant Biosecurity Status Report	PHA	31.1.16		
	Executive to contact AGSOC R&I Secretariat and ask if there is a schedule of those strategies which have completed audits	Executive	31.1.16		
Agenda Item 4	PBCRC to circulate Report C to the committee by Christmas	PBCRC	24.12.16		
Agenda Item 5	Committee to submit recommendations to the Executive Officer for the Cross sectoral priorities analysis report	Whole committee	23.12.15		
	Executive to revise Cross sectoral priorities analysis report to include conclusions and recommendations	Executive	31.1.16		

Action Item	Action	Responsibility	Expected Completion	Status	Comments
Agenda Item 6	Steering committee (CSIRO, DAWR, DEDJTR, PHA, QDAF, PBCRC) to meet and begin planning conference. Draft budget and resourcing to be presented at the next meeting	Forum Steering Committee-CSIRO, DAWR, DEDJTR, PHA, QDAF, PBCRC	31.1.16		
	Executive Officer to check committee members' availability in July 2016 for forum	Executive Officer	24.12.16		
Agenda Items 7 & 8	Committee to provide feedback to the Executive Officer on the Key Performance Indicators from the revised Strategy/Program Logic document. PHA to lead the updated paper for presentation at the next meeting	Whole Committee PHA	31.1.16		
Agenda Item 9	PHA to ask DAWR if the PHC Draft Framework for prioritisation of Plant Biosecurity Activities can be circulated to PBCRC and CSIRO's stakeholders and check if PHC requires feedback	PHA	14.12.16	Complete	

Action Item	Action	Responsibility	Expected Completion	Status	Comments
Agenda Item 12	Executive to draft a paper for the AGSOC R&I Committee meeting in February	Executive	31.1.16		
Meeting 11					
Agenda Item 3	PHA to follow up with AGWA and GRDC on committee representation	PHA	1.12.15	In Progress	