

**INCEPTION WORKSHOP OF PROJECT “SUPPORT TO CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT
IN IMPLEMENTATION OF PEST SURVEILLANCE AND INFORMATION
MANAGEMENT IN SOUTH-EAST ASIAN COUNTRIES” GCP/RAS/286/ROK
Bangkok, Thailand 29 November 2013**



Summary

Mr. Vili Fuavao, Deputy FAO Regional Representative for Asia and the Pacific, delivered the welcome address on behalf of Mr. Hiroyuki Konuma, Assistant Director General and FAO Regional Representative for Asia and the Pacific (RAP). Ms. Hyang Won Shin, Deputy Director of Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs, Korea delivered the welcome message on behalf of Korean Government as the donor country. Dr. Yonfan Piao, Lead Technical Officer of the project and Senior Plant Protection Officer, RAP, introduced background and objectives of the workshop and emphasized the importance of the pest surveillance as it is an essential basis of implementation of *International Standard for Phytosanitary Measures (ISPMs)*. Introduction and key comments on the project were made by Mr. Shin, as the Project Regional Coordinator. These included objectives of the project, project duration and budget, participating countries, previous activities, project work-plan and steering committee.

The National Project Coordinators (NPCs) from six participating countries presented country reports on status of pest surveillance, past and current projects of pest surveillance as well as pest surveillance activities, constraints, difficulties and weakness and future plan. Eight topics were prepared by Mr. Shin for the plenary discussion, which were:

- training options
- trainee's qualification
- training topics and curricula
- purchase of laboratory equipment

- in-country expertise training
- project calendar
- training itinerary
- National Plant Protection Officer (NPPO)'s role and responsibilities.

As for the training option for pest surveillance, most of NPCs expressed their concerns on technical deviations among participating countries and agreed to the option of combination of regional and country-based trainings by taking three regional trainings and five or six in-country trainings during the implementation of the project. Regarding trainee's qualification requirements, participating countries proposed to add a plant protection background and additional sentences to be identified by individual countries based on the country status. In addition, it was suggested to add additional lines to the selection criteria by each country depending on the local situation. NPCs expressed diverse opinions on the training topics. Especially they asked for "Bacteria" and "Virus" as additional training topics and for combining similar topics into one topic. Mr. Shin suggested that two or three types of draft training topics should be prepared by project regional coordinator later for consultation with participating countries to finalize topics. In terms of training topics for information management training, the Nepal NPC strongly requested that training expert should support the construction of advanced pest information system. It was stressed that it is important to incorporate existing system rather than re-establishing a new system unless a country desire to have a new system. NPCs asked questions on the purchase of laboratory equipment and relevant procedures. The project regional coordinator informed that there is need to submit the list of laboratory equipment by each country with clear and understandable technical specifications. Tentative project calendar was finalized based on the agreement on the training option and project document. Training itinerary was partly confirmed for both pest surveillance training and information management and the rest of training itinerary will be confirmed after project regional coordinator has more discussion with relevant NPC about this matter. All NPCs well understood their roles and responsibilities and committed their support and contribution to the implementation.

To conclude the workshop, Dr. Piao highlighted the achievements of the workshop and summarized its main discussion points and results. He also emphasized the NPCs and project coordinator's responsibilities and importance of frequent communications and consultation between project coordinator and country coordinator of participating countries for the successful implementation of the project.