

“Workshop on Crisis Preparedness – Plant Health”



31th MEETING OF THE FOCAL POINT NETWORK

18.05.2017 * HELSINKI/FINLAND

FILIPA MELO DE VASCONCELOS



In March 2017, the **European Food Safety Authority (EFSA)** co-facilitated with the **Portuguese Directorate-General for Food & Veterinary (DGAV)** a **Workshop on Crisis Preparedness focusing on Plant Health**.

The workshop was attended by **29 representatives** (plant health scientists and risk managers) from:

Cyprus, France, Greece, Italy, Malta, Spain and **Portugal**;

together with participants from:

EFSA - European Food Safety Authority

EPPO - European & Mediterranean Plant Protection Organisation

ASAE - Portuguese Economic & Food Safety Authority,

&

EC- European Commission.

8-10 March 2017
Praça do Comércio
Lisboa

EFSA developed a workshop structure and associated training materials to be delivered over a **three-day agenda**



2017 Workshop on Crisis preparedness - Plant Health

Meeting date: 8-10 March 2017
Meeting venue: Ministério da Agricultura, Território do Paço XX, Lisboa, Portugal

DRAFT AGENDA (27 February 2017)
Agenda items and timing may change

Day one: 8 March 2017

Time	Content
13.00-13.45	Lunch
13.45-14.00	Registration
14.00-14.15	Welcome by the Secretary of State of Agriculture and Food of Portugal Welcome by EFSA
14.15-14.30	EFSA strategy in crisis preparedness (EFSA)
14.30-15.00	Crisis preparedness under the new Plant Health regime: provisions for effective action against quarantine pests (DG SANTE G1)
15.00-15.20	EFSA's role for responding to urgent requests in Plant Health (EFSA)
15.20-15.50	EUROPHYT: report of interceptions and Outbreaks database (DG SANTE F3)
15.50-16.20	Coffee break
16.20-17.30	Toolbox exercises from Member States in the field of Plant Health crisis preparedness <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • France • Malta • Portugal • Spain
17.30-18.00	EPPO tools in supporting urgent situations (EPPO)
18.00-18.30	Principles of crisis communications/ guidelines and discussion / Communication during Crisis (EFSA)



Day two: 9 March 2017

Time	Content
8.45-9.00	Registration
9.00-11.30	Simulation exercise on multi-national outbreak and crisis communication (Phase 1 and 2)
11.30-14.30	Lunch break
14.30-17.30	Simulation exercise on multi-national outbreak and crisis communication (Phase 3)

Day three: 10 March 2017

Time	Content
08.45-9.00	Registration
09.00-09.30	Debrief and key learnings from Day Two (Phase 1)
09.30-10.00	Debrief and key learnings from Day Two (Phase 2)
10.00-11.00	Debrief and key learnings from Day Two (Phase 3)
11.00-11.30	Coffee break
11.30-12.00	Improve preparedness horizon scanning in plant health (EFSA)
12.00-12.30	Workshop closing remarks
12.30-13.30	Lunch

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15.00-15.20	EFSA's role for responding to urgent requests in Plant Health (EFSA)
15.20-15.50	EUROPHYT: report of Interceptions and Outbreaks database (DG SANTE F3)
15.50-16.20	Coffee break
16.20-17.30	Tools/experience from Member States in the field of Plant Health crisis <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • France • Malta • Portugal • Spain
17.30-18.00	EPPO tools in supporting urgent situations (EPPO)
18.00-18.30	Principles of crisis communications/ guidelines and discussion / Concluding Crisis (EFSA)



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Day two: 9 March 2017

Time	Content
8.45-9.00	Registration
9.00-13.30	Simulation exercise on multi-national outbreak and crisis communication (Phases 1 and 2)
13.30-14.30	Lunch break
14.30-17.30	Simulation exercise on multi-national outbreak and crisis communication (Phase 3)



Meeting between MS na EC Representatives



MS country team responding to the developing situation

Images from Day Two activity



“Bilateral Meeting” between two MS participant Teams



Consultation between two MS country teams and the EC

This **WORKSHOP ON CRISIS PREPAREDNESS** enhances the collaboration of EFSA with its institutional stakeholders in the area of crisis preparedness and It is in line with EFSA 2020 Strategy.

This **Workshop** aims to discuss **Plant Health Crisis Preparedness**, by:

- **sharing experiences and best practices;**
- promoting the approach on **concepts**, **principles** and **procedures**.

The following **objectives** were addressed:

- i) **Networking of key players**, promoting cooperation among actors (scientists, risk assessors and risk managers);
- ii) Developing **capacity in methodology for data collection and reporting**;
- iii) Exploring **risk communication activities**.

These **objectives were achieved**, on the basis of recorded outcomes and evaluation feedback from participants.

The Workshop generated **4 Practical Recommendations:**

Practical Recommendation 1: Preparedness exercises should be a considered a priority to be run frequently also at national level, to ensure sufficient understanding of (and familiarity with) procedures among all individuals who may be involved in using them—and to verify procedures' fitness for purpose.

The Workshop generated **4 Practical Recommendations:**

Practical Recommendation 2 :

EFSA/EPPO could play a key role in the definition (from already existing data and/or modelling activities) on the **flying capacity of plant disease vectors to inform decision-making about buffer zone size within a demarcated area (DA).**

Practical Recommendation 3:

Utilization of social media and other media outlets for stakeholder **risk communications during emergency situations should be improved.**

Practical Recommendation 4:

The creation of **regional (cross-border) contingency plans, complementing national contingency plans**, could help to align actions taken by neighbouring MSs during situations whose actual or potential scope extends beyond national borders

Conclusions:

- 1) **Networking of key players**, promoting cooperation among actors (risk assessors and risk managers)
- 2) **Developing capacity** in methodology for data collection and reporting
- 3) **Exploring risk communication activities**

Thanks for your attention!
Obrigada!!



fmvasconcelos@asae.pt
DEPUTY GENERAL-INSPECTOR