

Asia-Pacific Forest Invasive Species Network Workshop

“Science informing forest invasive species policy: pine wilt disease as a case study”

17 – 21 June, Incheon, Republic of Korea

Introduction:

Forest invasive species pose an increasing threat to the health, sustainability and productivity of natural and planted forests in the Asia-Pacific region and globally. These threats are closely associated with the ever-increasing movement of goods and people across the globe, exacerbated by the impacts of climate. Given the transboundary nature of these threats, measures taken to mitigate them must be based on cooperation and collaboration between countries, within regions, and globally. Economically developing countries are at the highest risk from the adverse impacts of invasive alien species (IAS) but have limited capacity to deal with these threats. These factors have led to the establishment by FAO of several forest invasive species networks, including the Asia Pacific Forest Invasive Species Network (APFISN) that serves 34 member countries of the Asia Pacific Forestry Commission. APFISN’s focus is on facilitating inter-country cooperation that helps to detect, prevent, monitor, eradicate and/or control forest invasive species in the Asia-Pacific region through the sharing of information, expertise, and resources.

Policy measures such as those implemented under the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC) are one of the key global methods used to lower the risk of movement and establishment of IAS. The most important of these are the International Standards for Phytosanitary Measures (ISPMs). In relation to forestry the two most important ISPMs are ISPM15 (“Regulation of Wood Packaging Material in International Trade”) and ISPM36 (“Integrated measures for plants for planting”). To be adopted and demonstrated to be effective, the development of these measures requires they be based on the best available science. Under the IPPC the International Forestry Quarantine Research Group (IFQRG) plays a key role in developing and refining these protocols through scientific analysis, discussion and collaborative research. In addition, regions and individual countries may also implement regulations and policies that apply at regional and local scales, targeted at local circumstances. Networks such as APFISN can assist the adoption and implementation of international and local measures through raising awareness of the importance of forest invasive species in our region, as well as by providing capacity building opportunities in policy and research.

The proposed workshop to be conducted in conjunction with the Asia-Pacific Forestry Week in the Republic of Korea from 18-21 June 2019 will focus on how science can inform forest invasive species policy, using pine wilt disease in particular as a case study. The workshop will review the current situation of pine wilt disease in invaded countries, current protocols for prevention of movement, as well as regulatory and policy responses.

Workshop objectives

The specific objectives of the workshop will be to:

1. Review what PWD disease is and why it is an important IAS
2. Review the current situation of PWD in invaded countries
3. Discuss regulatory and policy responses to PWD
4. Analyse the risk of further spread of PWD and the use of monitoring and early detection and response methods.
5. Discuss the effectiveness of management methods
6. Model an incursion scenario to elucidate policy and management responses

Outcomes

- Improved understanding of nexus between science and policy in regard to IAS
- Practical skills developed in incursion response, early detection and rapid response to IAS
- Recommendations to APFC on how to improve policy making in the region on IAS
- Determine if there are opportunities for APFISN and appropriate member countries to strengthen collaboration on PWD and if so, develop an operational framework
- Review IAS issues and priorities in the region to inform APFISN work program for 2019/20

Participants

Workshop participants will include FIS researchers and policy makers from the APFISN member countries, the Secretariats of APFISN, the respective APFISN country focal points and other relevant experts and organisation representatives (e.g. APFNet and IPPC/ IFQRG).

Process

The workshop will convene on the afternoon of Monday 17 June 2019 as a pre-session adjunct to the 28th session of the Asia-Pacific Forestry Commission and then run as part of Stream 3: “Building a resilient environment” on Tuesday 18th June, Wednesday 19th June and Friday 20th June. A draft agenda for the workshop is outlined below.

Draft Agenda

Monday, 17 June	
07.30 – 08.30	REGISTRATION
08.30 – 17.00	APFISN side event: “Pine Wilt Disease in the Asia Pacific Region: Where are we now and how can we move forward?” 1) what do we know? 2) what are the gaps? 3) what are the priorities? 4) can we work on this problem as a regional/sub-regional consortium under APFISN?
Tuesday, 18 June	
08.00 – 09.00	REGISTRATION
09.00 – 10.30	OPENING CEREMONY OF THE APFW2019
10.30 – 11.00	COFFEE/TEA BREAK
11.00 – 12.30	PLENARY SESSION + LAUNCHING OF APFSOS III
12.30 – 13.30	LUNCH
13.30 – 15.00	Stream 3: APFISN Session 1 – Summary of APFISN activities 2017-2019; Country Reports – review activities 2017-2019; # 1 priority for 2019-20 (5 mins/3 slides per country)
15.00 – 15.30	TEA/COFFEE BREAK
15.30 – 17.00	Stream 3: APFISN Session 2 – Review: what are the current and emerging major issues in the AP region and what can we do to manage them better?
18.00 – 20.00	CULTURAL EVENTS
Wednesday, 19 June	
09.00 – 10.30	PLENARY SESSION
10.30 – 11.00	COFFEE/TEA BREAK
11.00 – 12.30	Stream 3: APFISN Session 3 – Using science to inform IAS Policy in the Asia-Pacific Region: Processes & case studies
12.30 – 13.30	LUNCH
13.30 – 15.00	Stream 3: APFISN Session 4 - Science informing forest invasive species policy Group Session – Scenario testing (Pine wilt disease incursion response)
15.00 – 15.30	COFFEE/TEA BREAK
15.30 – 17.00	Stream 3: APFISN Session 5 - Science informing forest invasive species policy Group Session continued – Scenario testing (Velvet tree (<i>Miconia calvescens</i>) incursion response)
18.00 – 20.00	EVENING EVENTS
Thursday, 20 June	
07.30 – 17.00	FIELD TRIPS
Friday, 21 June	
09.00 – 10.30	PLENARY SESSION
10.30 – 11.00	COFFEE/TEA BREAK
11.00 – 12.30	Stream 3: APFISN Session 6: Open Discussion and Review; APFISN work plan 2019-20 discussion
12.30 – 13.30	LUNCH
13.30 – 15.00	Stream 3: APFISN Session 7: APFISN work plan 2019-20 discussion.
15.30 – 16.00	TEA/COFFEE BREAK
16.00 – 17.00	CLOSING CEREMONY