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- CABI and Plantwise one platform for insights
- Unintentional Acute Pesticide Poisoning in the Caribbean
- Barriers and facilitators to biopesticide uptake Systematic Review
- Pesticide Risk Reduction consultation initial findings



Our member countries





















































Vietnam











































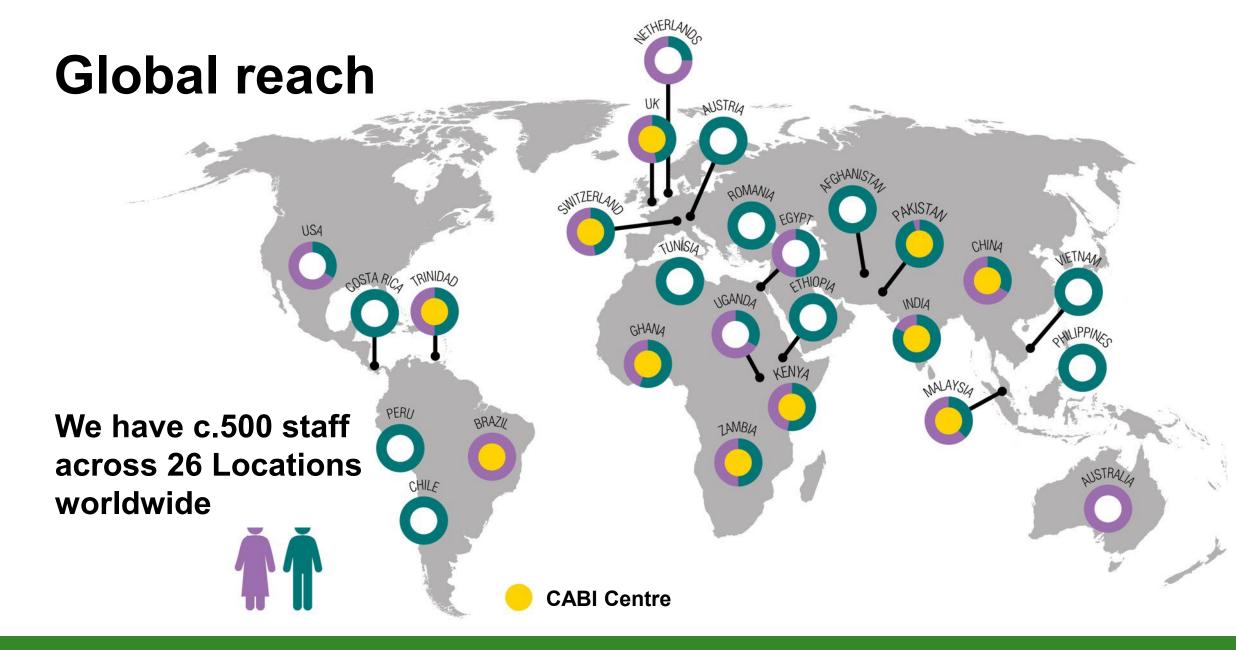






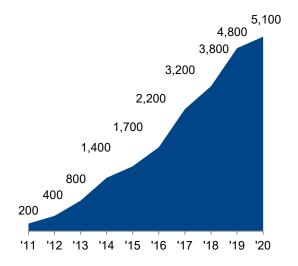






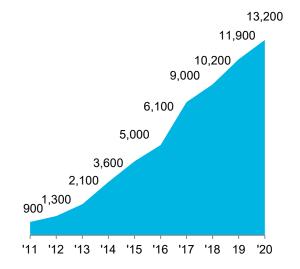
Plantwise – Ten Years of Impact





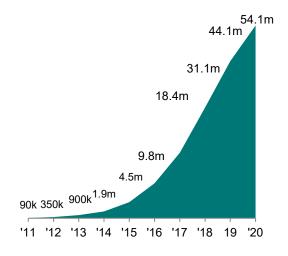
> 5,000 plant clinics established











> 54 million farmers reached





Sustainable crop production with PlantwisePlus

PlantwisePlus aims to reach **75 million smallholder farmers** in low and lower-middle-income countries, providing them with access to the knowledge and skills they need to improve their production practices.

This will be achieved by supporting countries to **predict**, **prevent**, and **prepare** for plant health threats in the face of a changing climate.

This ensures that smallholder farmers reduce their crop losses and **produce** more and safer food through sustainable crop production practices.



Impact pathways



Pest preparedness

Coordinating and strengthening systems for detection and response to pest outbreaks



Pesticide risk reduction

Increasing awareness of, access to, and use of affordable integrated pest management solutions



Farmer advisory

Enhancing knowledge and uptake of integrated pest management practices through responsive digital advisory tools



PlantwisePlus countries, 2025





Regional Consultation Meetings 2025



Americas and Caribbean

September 2025

Port of Spain, Trinidad & Tobago







Farmers in Trinidad



Trinidad vegetable farmers and UAPP

(presentation by Prof Duraisamy Saravanakumar)

Survey data from 208 farmers

91% had less than 5ha

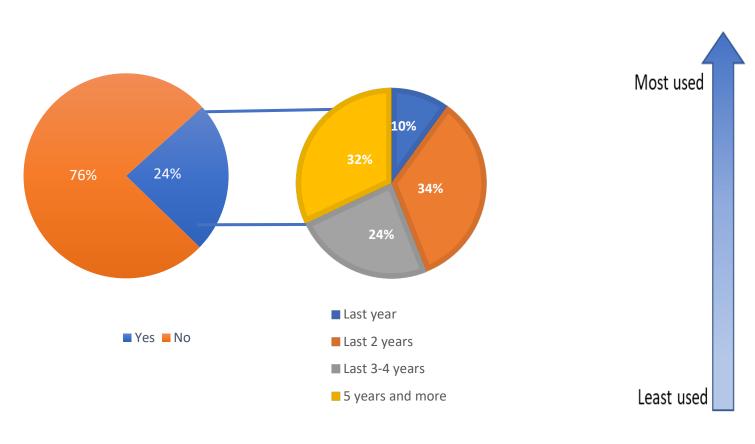
65% were older than 40

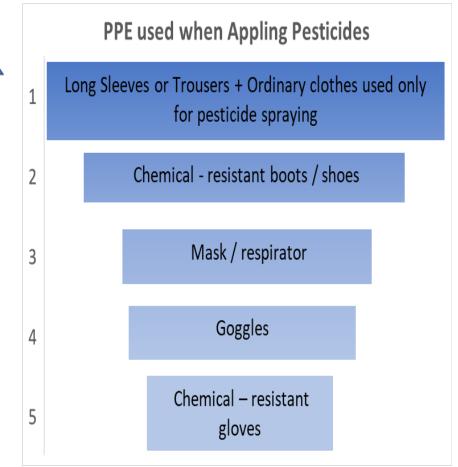
83% male

Robinson, Dwight E., et al. "Assessment of unintentional acute pesticide poisoning among smallholder vegetable farmers in Trinidad and Jamaica." *Frontiers in Public Health* 12 (2024): 1470276.

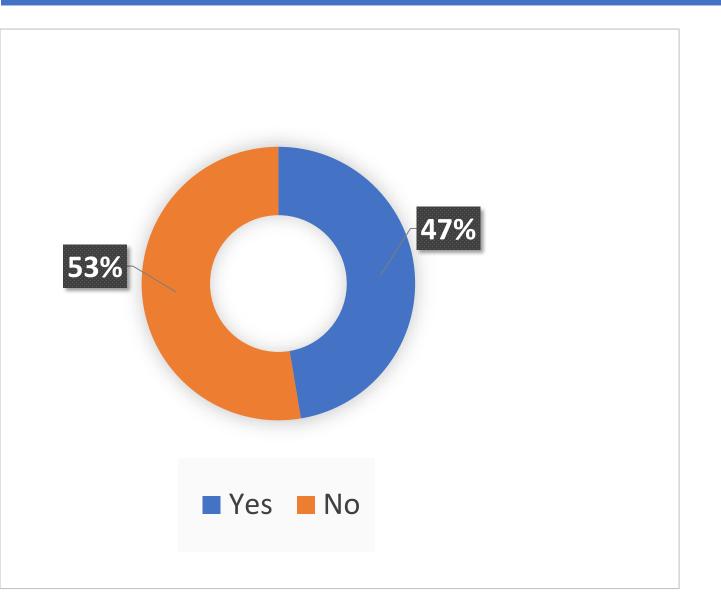


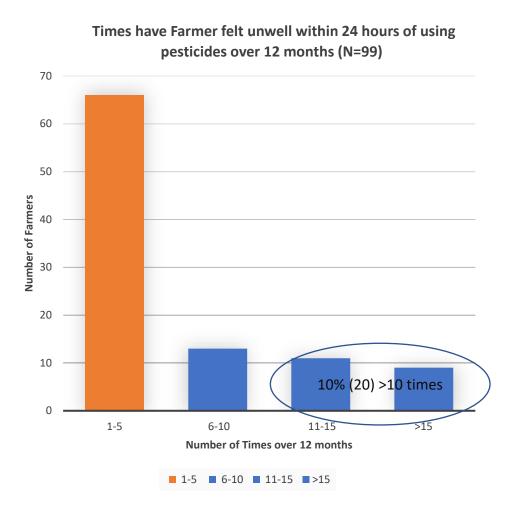
Farmers PPE training and type of PPE used





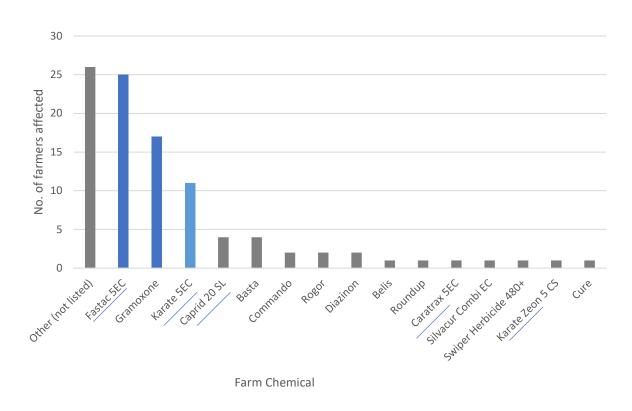
Farmers felt unwell over past 12 months within 24 hrs after application

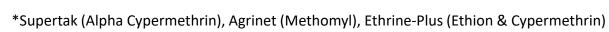


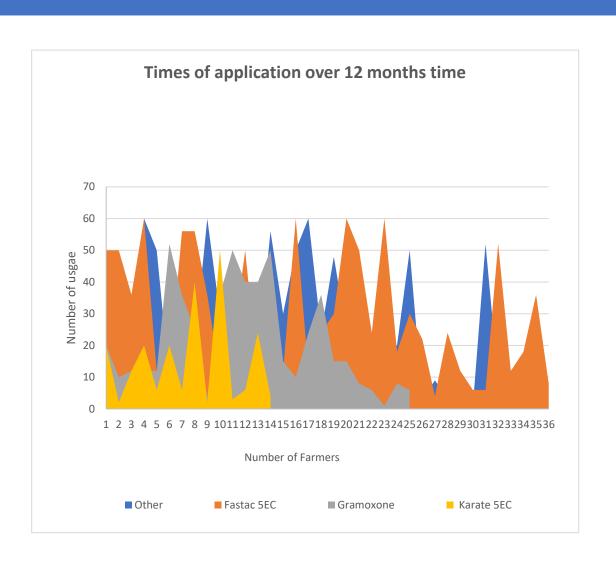


Pesticides reported with health impact

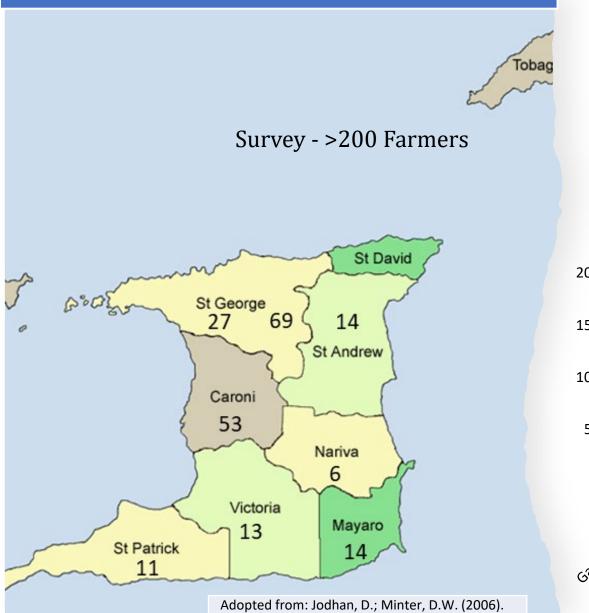
Pesticides used in the last 12 months which affected health

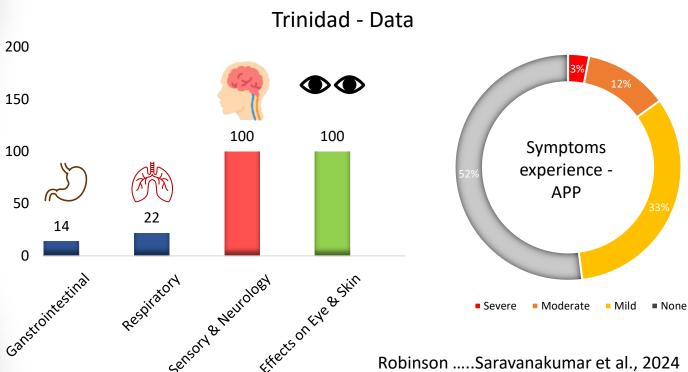






Symptoms associated with HHPs



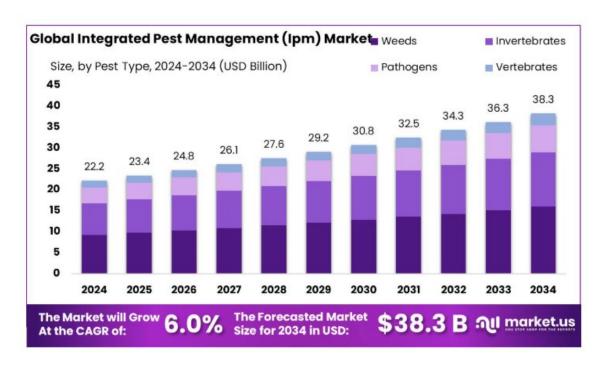


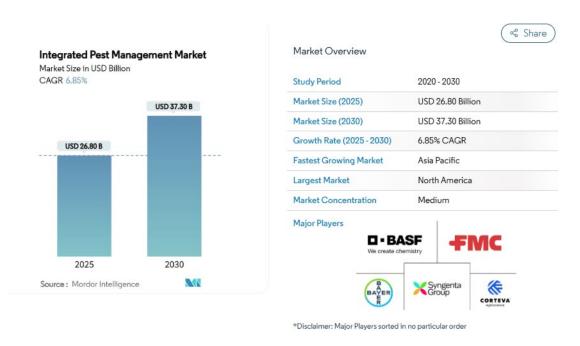
Reports of pesticide incidents in Trinidad from the surveying of 208 participants



This report assisted the regulatory authorities to make decision to **DE-REGISTER** some of the HHPs!!!

Global IPM market is growing fast

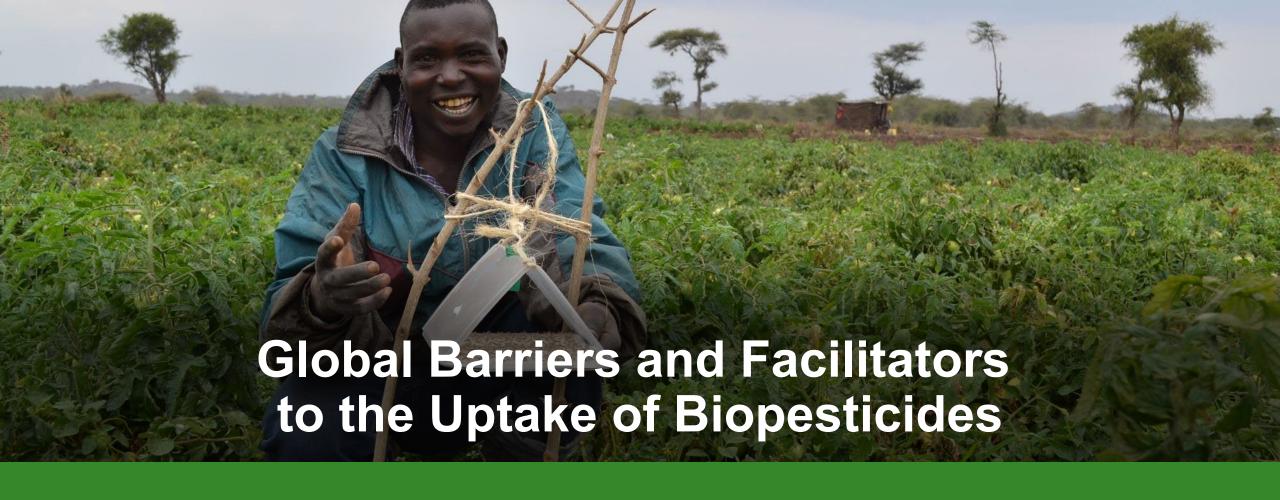




Biologicals share growing by 8-11% and expected to double in less than 10 years (DataIntelo)







Joint CABI and FAO evidence synthesis

Robert Malek, Kris Wyckhuys, Neal Haddaway, Dirk Babendreier, Melanie Bateman, Lukas Wyrwal, Qingpo Yang, Ivy Saunyama, Sini Savilaakso, Gu Baogen, Ulrich Kuhlmann

WIP





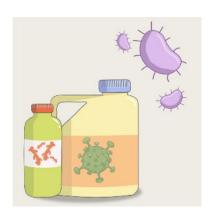
Evidence synthesis overview

Research questions:

- What research exists on barriers and facilitators to biopesticide uptake?
- What are the **barriers** and **facilitators** to biopesticide uptake and where do they occur along the stages of the uptake pipeline?
- How do they vary by biopesticide type (e.g. microbial, macrobial), literature type and geography?
- Timeframe: 2016 present; in line with the publication of the FAO guidelines for the registration of microbial, botanical and semiochemical pest control agents (<u>FAO and WHO 2017</u>)



Types of biopesticides included in our study:



Microbials and their extracts



Macrobials (augmentative biocontrol)



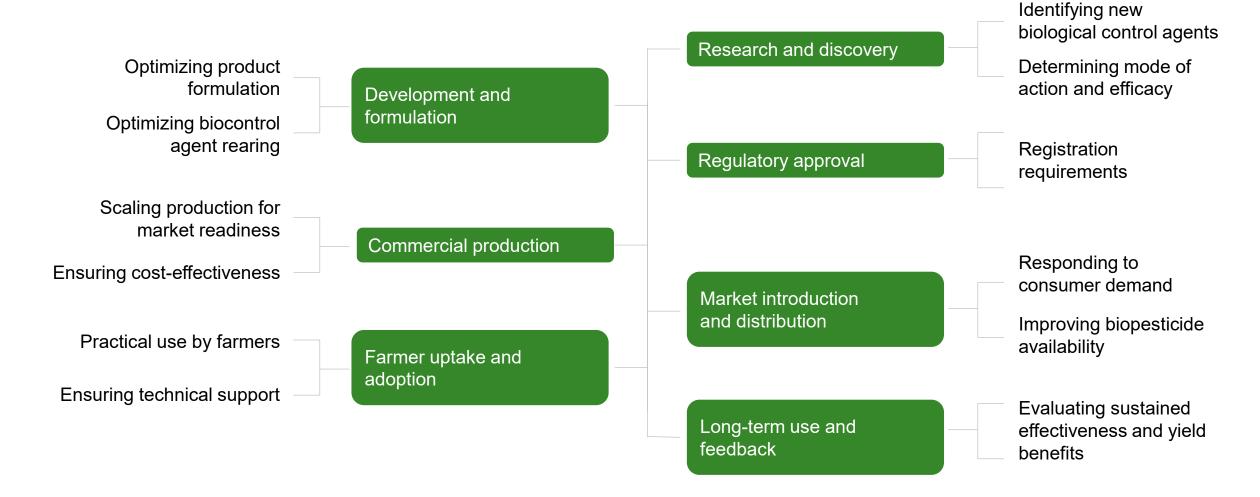
Semiochemicals



Botanicals and other natural substances



Biopesticide production and uptake pipeline



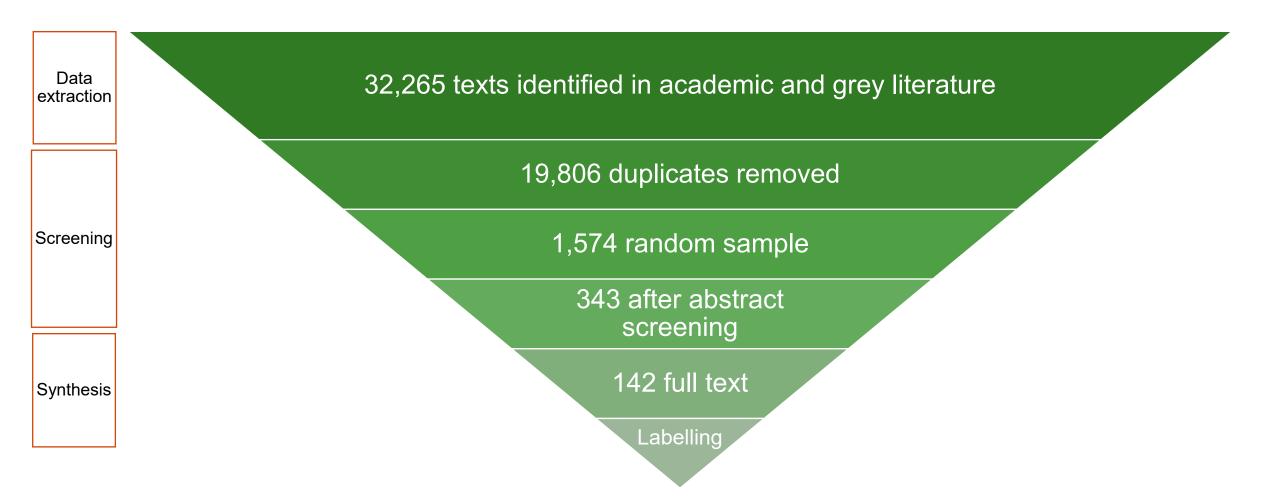


Approach: Data extraction

- Define search string (biopesticides, barriers, facilitators, timeline etc.)
- Search academic databases (e.g. CAB Abstracts, Scopus, Web of Science) and grey literature websites (FAO, CABI, IBMA, UNEP, ICGEB, OECD, APAARI, STDF)
- English language publications



Screening





Results: Thematic classification

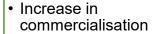
 Lack of availability

Availability

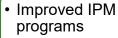
 Lack of farmer education programs

 Improved extension

Awareness Raising and Training



Commercialisation and Marketing



Synergy when integrating with other solutions

Compatibility



Cost effective

Cost Effectiveness

- Limited market size
- Loss of efficacy of pesticides
- Consumer demand

Difficulties with field application

Ease of Application



- Limited efficacy
- · High efficacy

Efficacy



Safe for humans and the environment

Non-target risks



- Complex registration process
- High cost of registration

Policies and Institutions



 High cost of production

 Lack of availability

Scalability



Low shelf-life

Shelf-life and stability Socio-economic benefits

Demand

Yield benefits

Socio-economic benefits

- Efficacy unclear
- Better mode of action determination

Strength of evidence





Results: Thematic classification

 Lack of availability

Availability

 Lack of farmer education programs

 Improved extension

Awareness Raising and Increase in commercialisation

Commercialisation

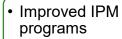
Complex

process

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Synergy when integrating with other solutions

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Difficulties with

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Training

and Marketing

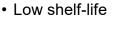




 Lack of availability

production

Scalability



and stability

 Socio-economic benefits

Demand

Yield benefits

Socio-economic benefits

Efficacy unclear

 Better mode of action determination

Strength of evidence





Limited efficacy

· High efficacy





 Safe for humans and the environment

Non-target risks











Prominent barriers and facilitators

- Lack of farmer education programs (26%)
- Lack of technical support (10%)
- Improved training and extension (24%)
- Improved farmer education programs (13%)

Awareness Raising and Training



- Limited efficacy (22%)
- High efficacy (39%)

Efficacy



- Non-target effects (6%)
- Safe for humans and the environment (91%)

Non-target risks



- Complex registration process (15%)
- High cost of registration (9%)
- Lack of regulatory guidelines (7%)
- Policy support and incentives (18%)

Policies and Institutions





Take home messages

- The interplay of barriers and facilitators, shapes the biopesticide landscape and forms a dynamic system rather than a set of isolated challenges and opportunities
- The most prominent facilitator referred to biopesticides' "Safety for humans and the environment". Capitalizing on that through "Policies and institutions" may tip the scales of adoption
- This evidence map allows stakeholders to prioritize certain key barriers depending on the geographical and institutional perspective





Consulting and building partnerships

- 1.5 days of each regional consultation dedicated to Pesticide Risk Reduction
- These sessions created significant engagement
- 64 experts in pesticide risk reduction, from 31 countries
- Aims were to understand key issues from a country level, regional and global perspective
- We are using this feedback to build a **robust, useful and measurable offering** to assist countries in reducing pesticide risk





The 64 Pesticide Risk Reduction experts included representatives from

- 17 Global organisations
- 10 Regional bodies
- 7 University researchers
- 6 Regulatory authorities
- 6 Government research organisations
- 4 Private sector organisations

Plus, expert representatives from the ministries of agriculture, extension, farmers associations, funding agencies, government bodies and industry boards



















Support the development and implementation of policies and regulations: Issues

Highly Hazardous Pesticides – definition, evidence of harm

Government priorities – plant health is often low in priority

Regulatory issues:

- Lack of dedicated pathway for lower risk product approval
- Regional harmonisation Maximum Residue Levels, biopesticide regulation
- Multiple ministries
- Long approval times
- Lack of resource / trained personnel

Enforcement, compliance and understanding of new regulations associated with biopesticides





Support the development and implementation of policies and regulations: Action Areas

- Highly Hazardous Pesticides
- Separate biopesticide regulations
- Regional harmonisation of regulations
- Increasing drive to implement low risk Integrated Pest
 Management based approaches
- International frameworks, conventions, national strategies
- Progress differs country to country
- Facilitate trade and adherence to international standards
- Multi-stakeholder representation





Collaborate on research and development of innovative IPM solutions: Issues

- Limited financial and technical resources
- Impacts of Highly Hazardous Pesticides
- Consistency of performance and efficacy of bioprotection products
- Limited evidence of efficacy and profitability for lower risk products
- Data supporting product efficacy
- Bioprotection is not a silver bullet
- Holistic approaches required
- Indigenous approaches to be considered



Collaborate on research and development of innovative IPM solutions: Action areas

- Evidence to waive requirements in chemical regulatory pathways
- Evidence for policy
- Early warning and early intervention
- Public private partnerships, multi stakeholder collaborations
- Address technology gaps through research
- Develop more lower risk plant protection products
- Demonstrate efficacy, economic benefit, biodiversity benefits
- Demonstrate integration with Integrated Pest Management approaches
- Communication and training is essential





Support value chain actors to <u>transition to</u> <u>lower-risk production practices</u>: <u>Issues</u>

- Significant pest/disease pressure
- Pesticide poisonings
- Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)
- Few economic incentives for farmers to reduce pesticide use
- Maximum Residue Levels for market access versus phytosanitary regulations
- Shrinking toolbox of active ingredients
- Lack of access to existing solutions for growers
- Changing behaviour of growers is challenging
- Local markets are not as incentivised to reduce hazardous pesticide use





Support value chain actors to <u>transition</u> to <u>lower-risk production practices</u>:

Action areas

- Trade, health, certification schemes and consumer demand are key
- Communicate evidence of success of lower risk approaches
- Context specific extension methods
- Work with local agro-dealers and extension workers
- Explore financial mechanisms to derisk transition in practices
- Improved pathway of communication between regulators and farmers





CABI's approach to pesticide risk reduction

CABI aligns with the FAO Guidance on Pest and Pesticide Management Policy Development (FAO, 2010), working across three steps:

- 1. Reducing reliance on pesticides. Determine what levels of pesticide use are actually needed. Make optimum use of non-chemical pest management and eliminate unjustified pesticide use.
- 2. Selecting pesticides with the lowest risk. If use of pesticides is deemed necessary, select products with the lowest risk to human health and the environment from the available registered products that are effective against the pest or disease.
- 3. Ensuring proper use of the selected products for approved applications and in compliance with international standards.





CABI's approach to pesticide risk reduction

Through working with Member Countries and other stakeholders we will:

- Support the development and implementation of policies and regulations
- Collaborate on research and development of innovative IPM solutions
- Support value chain actors to transition to lower-risk production practices

By applying Integrated Pest Management (IPM) practices we will:

- Encompass diverse, safer practices to manage pests
- Encourage judicious and carefully managed use of appropriate chemicals
- Reduce the risks posed by hazardous chemical pesticides



Partnerships are essential



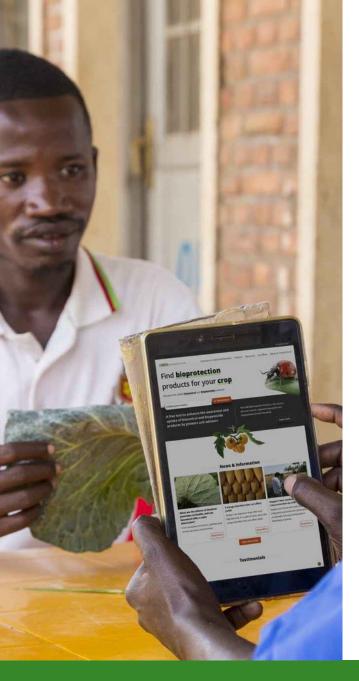
Multiple global initiatives include targets and goals to reduce the harm caused by pesticides; however, much work to do

100s of public and private sector organisations worldwide are working towards reducing the environmental and health risks associated with pesticides

Collaboration is key to meeting these international targets

We recognise that the barriers faced, and progress made around pesticide risk reduction vary substantially between countries; therefore, collaboration between CABI and its Member Countries is vital





The CABI BioProtection Portal

The world's largest open access tool for bioprotection – helping growers and advisors find biopesticide solutions and supporting more sustainable, regenerative agricultural practices.

Features:

- A search engine to look up authorised biological products by country, crop and/or pest
- A resources area with information on biological pest control, pest and crop guides, IPM guidance, success stories etc.











CABI BioProtection Portal Wins Gold Stevie Award: Sustainability Initiative of the Year in Europe

This recognition highlights the Portal's impact as a global resource empowering farmers with safe, sustainable pest management solutions and advancing agricultural transformation.

Winning this award affirms the Portal's leadership in tackling global sustainability challenges and strengthens its position as a trusted partner in promoting bioprotection and environmentally responsible farming.

The **Stevie Awards** are among the world's premier business honours, recognising excellence and innovation across industries, with over 12,000 entries annually from more than 70 countries.







The future

- IPM-friendly policy increases
- Shift away from HHP globally
- Increased demand for sustainability evidence
- Ever increasing integration
- Growing importance of data
- Gene editing opening the door to new strategies?





CABI as an international intergovernmental not-for-profit organization, gratefully acknowledges the generous support received from our many donors, sponsors and partners. In particular we thank our Member Countries for their vital financial and strategic contributions.

