



# Greater Caribbean Safeguarding Initiative Cross Functional Working Group FY2023 Operational Plan

## Operational Goal 1: Early Warning System

Utilize the Caribbean Plant Health Directors (CPHD) and Greater Caribbean Safeguarding Initiative (GCSI) networks to strengthen monitoring frameworks and reporting mechanisms that result in an effective region-wide system to support and advance timely notifications of significant quarantine pests entering the Greater Caribbean Region.

Task	FY23 Primary Task Activities
1	<p><b>Support the expansion and utilization of the Caribbean Biosecurity Interceptions System (CBIS) and Pest Surveillance Database (PSD), in the Greater Caribbean Region (GCR).</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ These platforms will provide online, real-time, pest interception data at GCR ports of entry to greatly enhance early warning capability in the Region.</li> </ul>
2	<p><b>Conduct surveillance for plant pests of mutual concern, with results reported to the Greater Caribbean Safeguarding Initiative (GCSI), the Greater Caribbean Region (GCR) partner organizations, and National Plant Protection Organizations (NPPOs).</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Activities should target pests on the current CPHD Regional Priority Pest List (RPPL) and pests that pose a serious threat to agriculture in the United States, and priority will be given to projects with a focus on <i>Phthorimaea absoluta</i>.</li> </ul>

## Operational Goal 2: Harmonized Pest Exclusion and Safeguarding Strategy

Develop and deploy effective strategies, aligned with international standards and risk analysis, with regional partners to identify and address high-risk pathways that have the potential to move pests of quarantine significance into and within the Greater Caribbean Region.

Task	FY23 Primary Task Activities
1	<p><b>Establish a Greater Caribbean Region <i>Phthorimaea absoluta</i> working group.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ With the detection of <i>Phthorimaea absoluta</i> in Trinidad &amp; Tobago this working group would develop and implement, with the assistance of regional partners, a strategic GCR-centric response plan to aid in research, exclusion, management, and recovery efforts and activities. This would include, but not be limited to, the identification of national points of contact, risk pathway assessments, enhanced post inspection activities, robust survey plan development, technical and assessment site visits, as well as capacity building and resource development activities.</li> </ul>

## Operational Goal 3: Emergency Response and Preparedness

Build on existing frameworks to develop a comprehensive, and scalable, regional emergency response and recovery plan that strives to support the joint response capability of the NPPO, CPHD, GCSI, and other regional partners.

Task	FY23 Primary Task Activities
1	<p><b>Develop and implement national and regional plant health emergency preparedness activities for plant pests of mutual concern.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Activities associated with this task will strengthen regional emergency response and preparedness capacity and expertise. Examples include but are not limited to; NPPO familiarization training for the Caribbean Pest Diagnostic Network, the creation and dissemination of emergency response plan packages, and conducting tabletop exercises to identify and address response plan gaps and challenges.</li> </ul>

## Operational Goal 4: Communication Network

Maximize the GCSI and CPHD networks to achieve an expanded and effective network that results in the sharing and dissemination of timely information, and leverages collaboration, coordination, and outreach opportunities among U.S. entities and external regional partners----in alignment with GCSI operational goals.

Task	FY23 Primary Task Activities
1	<p><b>Support and refine the Caribbean Plant Health Directors Website, Fruit Fly Management System and Social Media presence.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Activities associated with this task will strengthen regional emergency response and preparedness capacity and expertise. Examples include but are not limited to; NPPO familiarization training for the Caribbean Pest Diagnostic Network, the creation and dissemination of emergency response plan packages, and conducting tabletop exercises to identify and address response plan gaps and challenges.</li> </ul>
2	<p><b>Facilitate and convene the 16th Annual Caribbean Plant Health Directors (CPHD) Forum Meeting as an in-person/hybrid activity, dependent on the prevailing COVID-19 situation.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ This meeting is the longest and largest gathering of its kind in the GCR, bringing together an average of 28 member countries and 10 partner organizations for information sharing on regional plant health issues, work plan development and emerging pest information and related technological advances.</li> </ul>

# Operational Goal 5: Resources Strategies

Identify, categorize, and increase the resources available to support the GCSI.

Task	FY23 Primary Task Activities
1	<p data-bbox="253 300 1365 367"><b>Convene a regional safeguarding strategy/partnership meeting to develop an action plan, including funding sources/estimates, and associated resources.</b></p> <ul data-bbox="253 405 1469 573" style="list-style-type: none"><li data-bbox="253 405 1469 573">❖ The meeting component should consist of a multi-day, facilitated, face-to-face meeting of partner organization leadership to collaboratively develop a GCR plant health safeguarding action plan and identify or propose resources dedicated to that plan. This meeting should be an ongoing activity with an emphasis on sustainability through maximizing regional investment, in-kind, and cost sharing opportunities.</li></ul>