

FUTURE NEEDS IN SPS TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

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A. INTRODUCTION

1. In Colombia, the Colombian Agricultural Institute (ICA) as the sanitary and phytosanitary authority, is the hub of the SPS system of the country, and coordinates with other public and private sector institutions on the elaboration, harmonization, and application of norms related to animal health, plant health and food safety. The ICA is under the Ministry for Agriculture and Rural Development.

B. AGRICULTURE IN COLOMBIA

2. Colombia has a cultivated agricultural surface of approximately five million hectares located at altitudes from zero meters above sea level to more than 3000 meters.

- Estimates are that by 2050 the Change in Climate (CC) may endanger the livelihood of close to 3.5 million inhabitants that depend on the agricultural sector.
- In general, predictions are that the change will affect 80% of the crops in more than 60% of the country's areas.
- There is a possibility of variance in niche climates for coffee, fruits, cocoa, plantain, and banana.
- Changes will occur at the pest and disease levels.

Coffee berry borer - *Hypothenemus hampei*

3. There are approximately 600,000 families in Colombia dedicated to coffee production.

4. The lifecycle of this insect drastically changes when the temperature goes up. At 21°C the cycle is completed in 39 days and in 21.9 days at 28°C.

5. Additional evidence is observed in the change in the use of soil, consequent to climate change, within a zone of the coffee-production region of Colombia along with the presence of the coffee borer.

6. In the south-western region of Colombia, the CIAT points out that there will be significant changes evidenced by 2020 within the region optimum for coffee production and large changes by 2050.

It is important to highlight, in this final part of the presentation, the need to cooperate with SPS, in the following manner:

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- **Mitigation:** Regulations to improve agricultural and livestock production practices to reduce greenhouse gases that cause Global Warming; use of technologies with better energy performance.
- **Adaptation:** In SPS, instruments for accessing a variety of tolerants/resistants, pest-monitoring plans, and forecasting and early-warning networks. Validate regional models on sustainable management.
- **Assessment and follow up:** Participatory investigation, training for ICA national technicians for monitoring the progress and level of implementation.

7. ICA's efforts in agriculture, SPM, and climate change are currently focused on strengthening cooperation to strengthen the inter-institutional network for climate change that functions with the support from the Ministry for Agriculture and Rural Development and that has as its objective, from a holistic focus, the analysis of the implications of climate change on Colombian agriculture, development of impact scenarios at different scales, and validate options for adapting to climate change.

C. FINAL COMMENT FOCUSED ON THE QUERIES SET FORTH DURING THIS WORKSHOP

- Colombia has available evidence and information on the effects of climate change on the prevalence, resurgence, and dynamics of pests and diseases on different crops but this work has to be reinforced within the areas of small producers.
- The issuance of sanitary and phytosanitary norms, and their implementation thereafter, has an effect upon the behavior and development of pests and diseases (e.g. fruit flies, cotton weevil, palm bud rot, sugarcane blight).
- Countries such as Colombia require training and exchange of experiences with sanitary and phytosanitary risks, in function of climate change.
- In general, the effects of the sanitary and phytosanitary risks provoked by Climate Change will include modification in the level of sanitary and phytosanitary risks, displacement of planting areas, and change in the use of soil.