

Phytosanitary and Biosafety Measures

Over the last few years—and in parallel with advances in biotechnology—considerable progress has been made in the development and approval of international policy and legal frameworks on phytosanitary measures and biosafety. These policies and legal instruments have an impact on the management of plant genetic resources, whether it involves conservation, testing, distribution, import/export, etc. The concerns regarding the environmental, social and economic impacts of pests, invasive species and genetically modified organisms have been the main trigger for these developments.

Instructions to Trainers

14:30 – 15:30 **Session 10. Phytosanitary and Biosafety Measures**

15:30 – 15:45 **Tea/Coffee Break**

15:45 – 17:15 **Session 10. (Continued)**

OBJECTIVES

By the end of this session, the participants will be able to do the following:

- Identify the main international agreements concerning the transfer of genetic materials, from a perspective of health and safety
- Discuss the purpose and general orientation of each agreement as it affects national management of and policy for plant genetic resources for food and agriculture (PGRFA)
- Share practical experience of phytosanitary and biosafety measures

Use overhead 4.10.2 to present the session's objectives (5 minutes)

PROCEDURE

Learning Strategy: group work.

PRESENTATION

(experience) Give a brief presentation on Phytosanitary and Biosafety Measures. Before you begin the presentation, distribute the Summary of Overheads (Handout 4.10.1). You will find the information in Handout 4.10.2 very useful. Overheads 4.10.3 to 4.10.34 support the presentation. At the end of the presentation, distribute Handouts 4.10.2 to 4.10.5. Be sure to ask the participants if they have any comments or questions, or if they need any clarification. (45 minutes)

EXERCISE 10

Exercise 10. Transferring Genetic Materials, from a Perspective of Health and Safety (2 hours and 5 minutes)

Handout 4.10.6 provides 'practical considerations' regarding Exercise 10. Please be sure to read these considerations before the session. Distribute the handout only after the participants have completed exercise 10.

1. Divide the participants into four groups. Each group elects a rapporteur (5 minutes)

Phase 1. Group work (45 minutes)

2. (*experience, process*) Ask the groups to browse and briefly discuss handout 4.10.2 to identify the requirements of the principal international agreements in the areas that are relevant to genetic resource managers, research directors and national policy-makers. Then, they should give two accounts: one of a successful and one of an unsuccessful experience of applying phytosanitary and biosafety measures. Ask them to include the following in their accounts

(35 minutes):

- a title
 - identification of the case (country(ies)/region; when important, dates; type of activity; important contextual factors, etc.)
 - the setting (what was the situation, major elements, etc.)
 - the legal and policy environment involved (international agreements)
 - the outcomes
 - the lessons learned
 - recommendations for tackling similar situations
3. Ask the rapporteurs to summarize the accounts in handout 4.10.4. (10 minutes).

Phase 2. Exchanging the stories (30 minutes)

4. Invite the rapporteurs to exchange the summaries. The rapporteur from Group A exchanges with Group C and the rapporteur from Group C exchanges with Group D. (5 minutes)
5. (*process, generalization*) Ask the groups to read and analyse the summaries based on the following questions (20 minutes):
 - a. Can you relate this case to a situation in your own environment? Could you describe it in a few sentences?

- b. What are the similarities and differences between the case that you read and the case that you are identifying in your own environment? Could you describe the major elements that make them similar and/or different?
 - c. Based on this exercise, what would you recommend to those who face a similar situation in their countries? List these recommendations step by step to facilitate the understanding and application of these recommendations.
 - d. What major lesson did you learn from this exercise?
7. The rapporteurs summarize their group's results on a flipchart and report to the audience during the next phase. (5 minutes)

Phase 3. Reporting and discussion (50 minutes)

8. (*process, generalization*) Ask the rapporteurs to present their group's results to the audience, using overheads or flipcharts. Ask them to begin their report by summarizing the account in question. Each rapporteur has five minutes to present the report. (20 minutes)
9. After each presentation, the audience has five minutes to discuss the case study presented. (20 minutes)
10. (*generalization*) At the end of the exercise distribute handout 4.10.6 (Practical Considerations for Exercise 10), facilitate a brief discussion, and ask for and provide feedback on the exercise. (10 minutes)

CLOSURE

Closure (5 minutes)

(*application*) Ask the participants 'What might you do differently in your job as a result of what you have learned?'

Make a transition to the next session.

17:15 – 17:30 Feedback on the Day's Activities and PAPA

OBJECTIVES

By the end of this session, the participants will be able to do the following:

- Provide feedback on the day's activities.
- Consider possible actions they would like to take in their own organizations.

PROCEDURE

Training technique: individual exercise.

FEEDBACK

Highlight positive and negative points of the day. Note areas that may need additional attention in the workshop. Participants can describe some strengths and weaknesses of this day on handout 4.10.7 (5 minutes)

PAPA

(application) Ask the participants to take time to jot down some action ideas they may have for themselves as a result of today's activities. They can use handout 4.10.8. (10 minutes)

Remember to invite a volunteer to prepare a brief report of this day, summarizing major lessons learned, for presentation during next day's pre-session.

Prepare a summary of the day's evaluation for next morning.

Reminder: Make sure that all materials for Day 5 labelled 'handouts' (see page headers) have been photocopied.