



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations



ورشة عمل خطط الطوارئ كتمرين محاكاة عملي

Contingency Exercise Workshop

Xylella fastidiosa

Hammamet, Tunisia, 26 – 28 May 2025

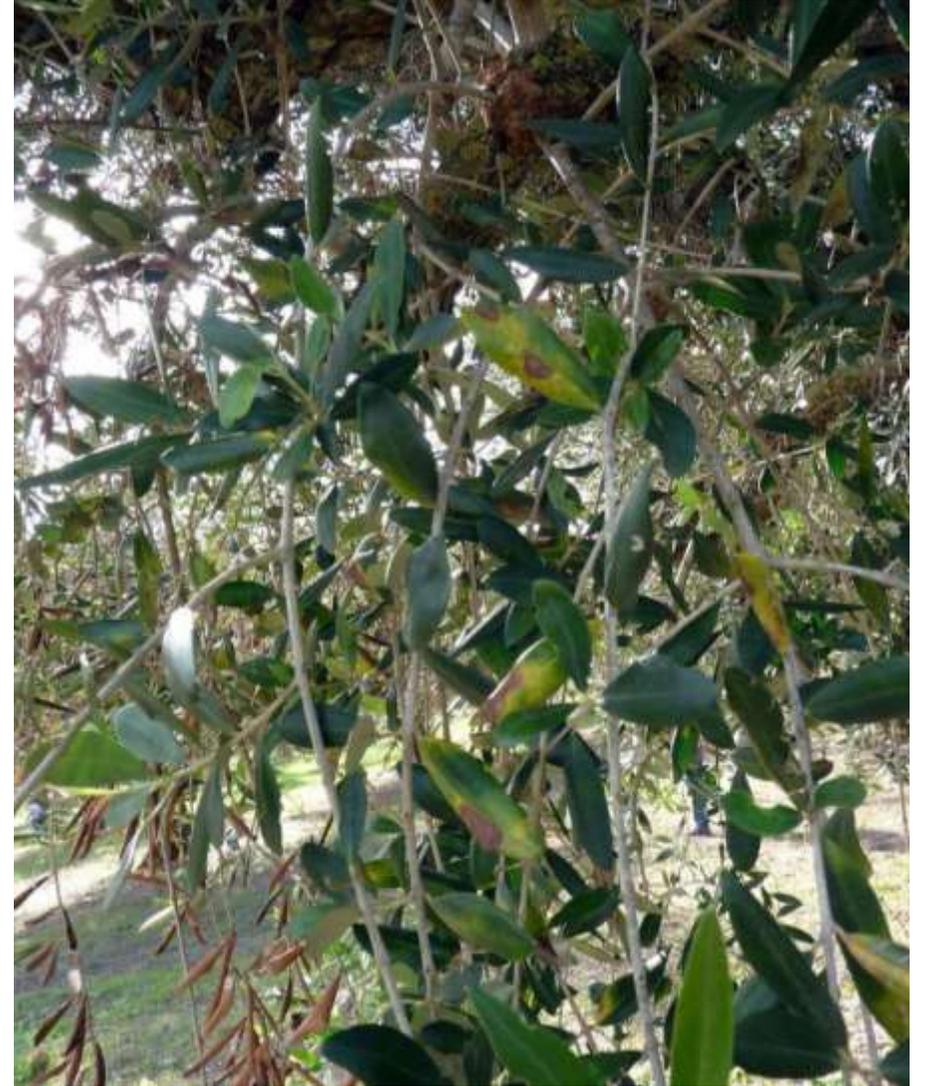
Contingency planning for pest outbreaks

Rob Tanner (EPPO): Organising Committee: Ms Olga Tikka (EPPO), Mr Mohamed Habib Ben Jamâa (NEPPO), Ms Marie-Agnes Jacques (INRA, FR), Mr Antonio Vicent (ivia, ES), Mr Sybren Vos (EFSA, IT), Mr Thaer Yaseen (FAO, EG), Ms Olfa Ezzine (NEPPO), Ms Lisa Perez (EPPO)



Overview

- Introduction to contingency planning
- Essential elements
- Testing a contingency plan
- Simulation exercise



Symptoms on olive trees. EPPO Global Database, courtesy of Jaap Janse (NL)

Contingency plans

- Contingency plans aim to ensure a rapid and effective response to an outbreak of a pest which has been assessed as likely to cause major economic and/or environmental impact,
- They can help organisations involved in the eradication of an outbreak to be prepared, especially when several parties need to cooperate.

PM 9/10 (1) Generic elements for contingency plans. *EPPO Bulletin* 39, 471-474.



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12 essential elements



- Background information on the pest
- Initiation of a contingency plan
- Official actions on presumptive diagnostics
- Official actions to eradicate the pest
- Review of measures in case of prolonged official action
- Determining completion of statutory action
- Command structure
- Stakeholder consultation
- Internal communication
- External communication
- Testing and training of personnel
- Evaluation and revision of contingency plan

Testing a contingency plan

- Simulate the experience of a phytosanitary emergency
- Test if the EPPO Standard PM 9/10 and the Tunisian contingency plan are 'fit for purpose'
- Evaluate the availability of other resources
- Work as a team



Test

Types of simulation exercises



Realism

Live play: Exercise activity

Simulation: control centre exercise

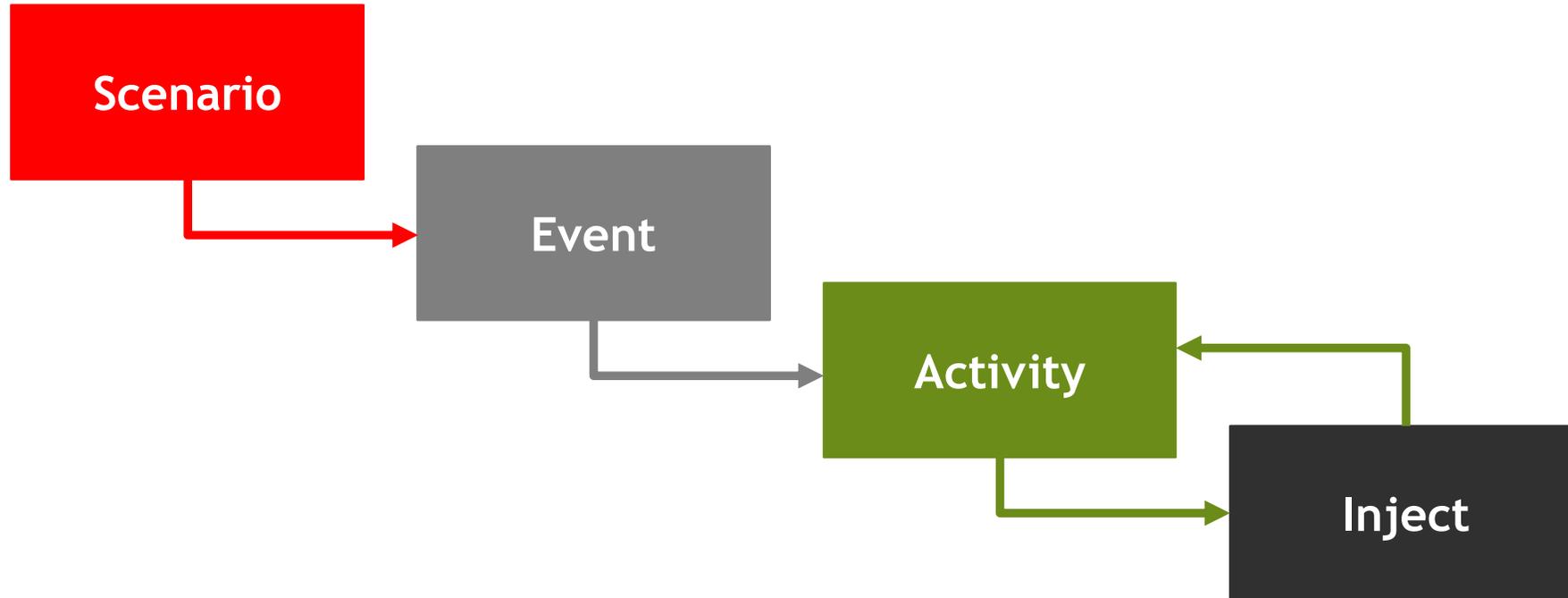
Table-top: Facilitated exercise ~ can be complex

Discussion: evaluates shared understanding

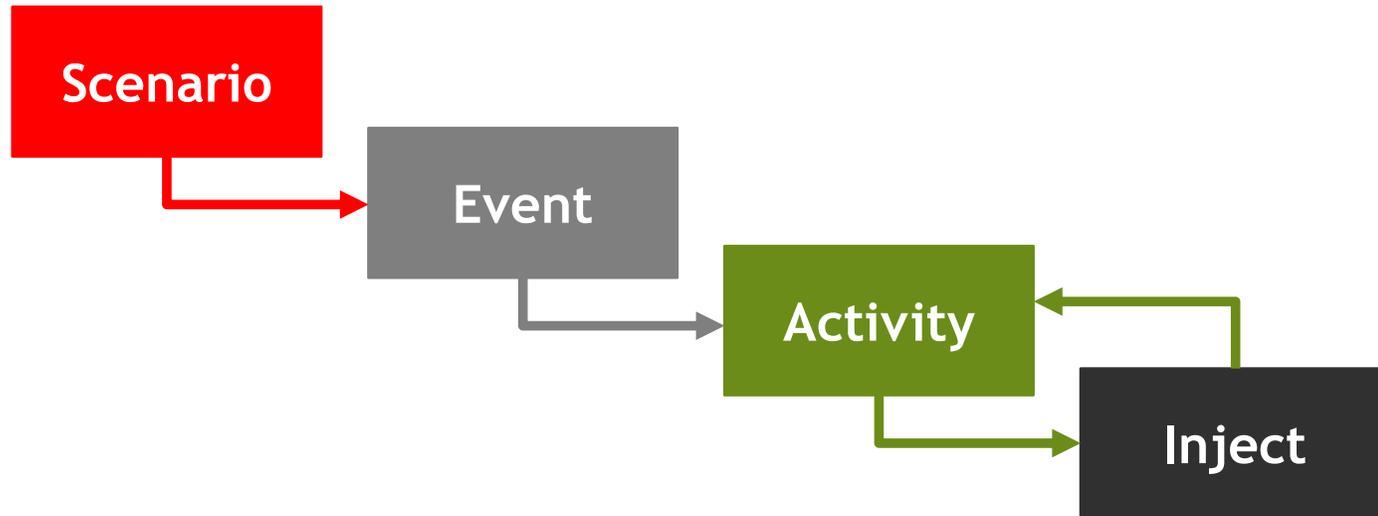
Drill: simple co-ordinated

Challenge

Structure of a simulation exercise



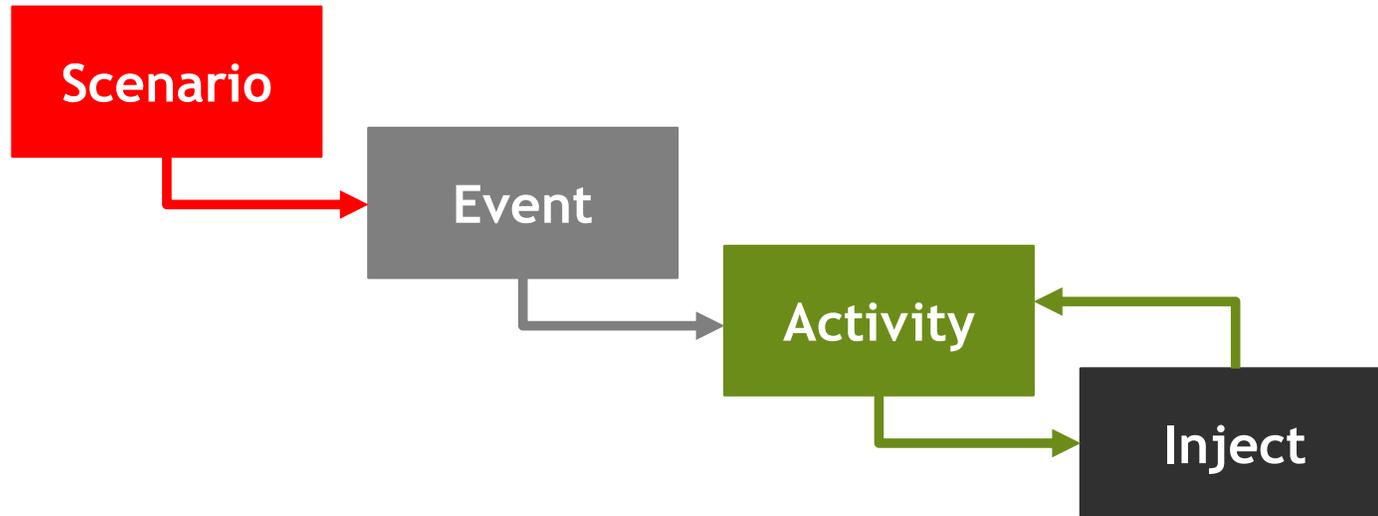
The scenario



The **scenario** is the common theme for the exercise

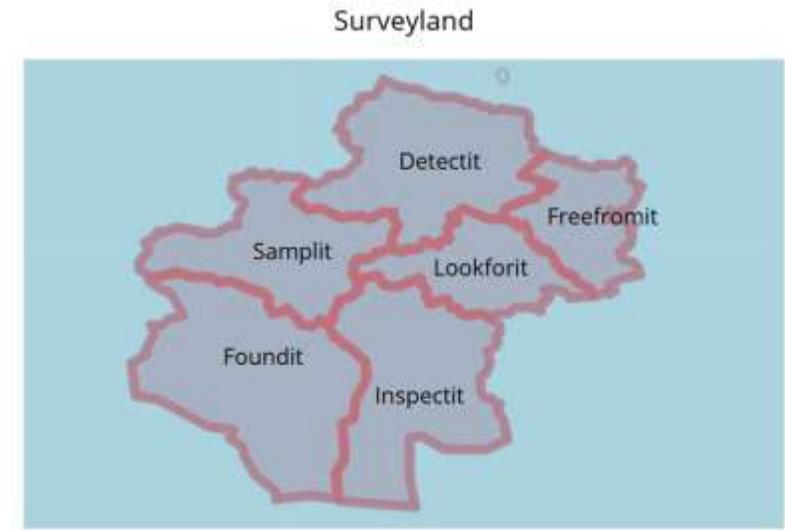


The scenario



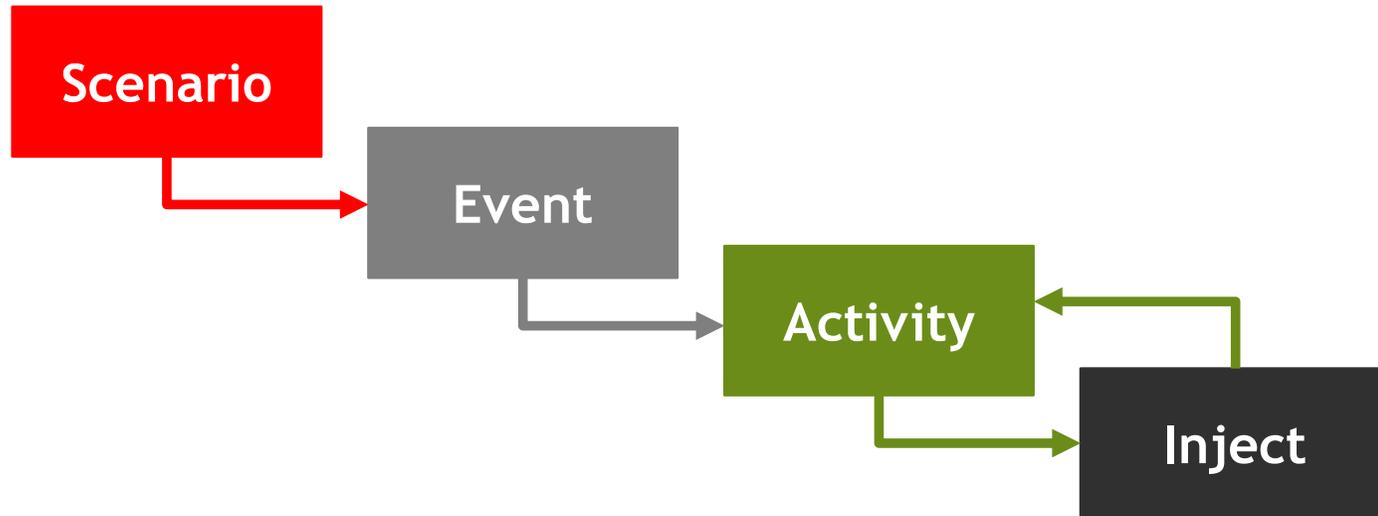
The **scenario** is the common theme for the exercise

The first handouts will set the **scenario**



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An event



An **event** occurs as a result of the **scenario**.

For example:

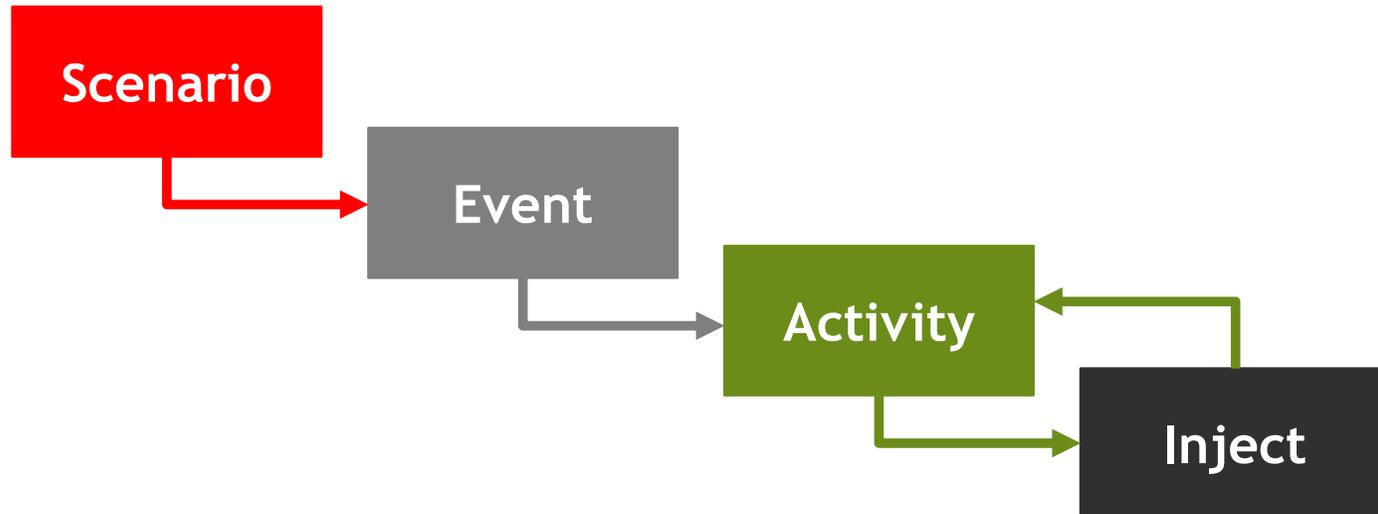
X.f suspected in a new orchard

X.f detected in samples in the laboratory



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An activity



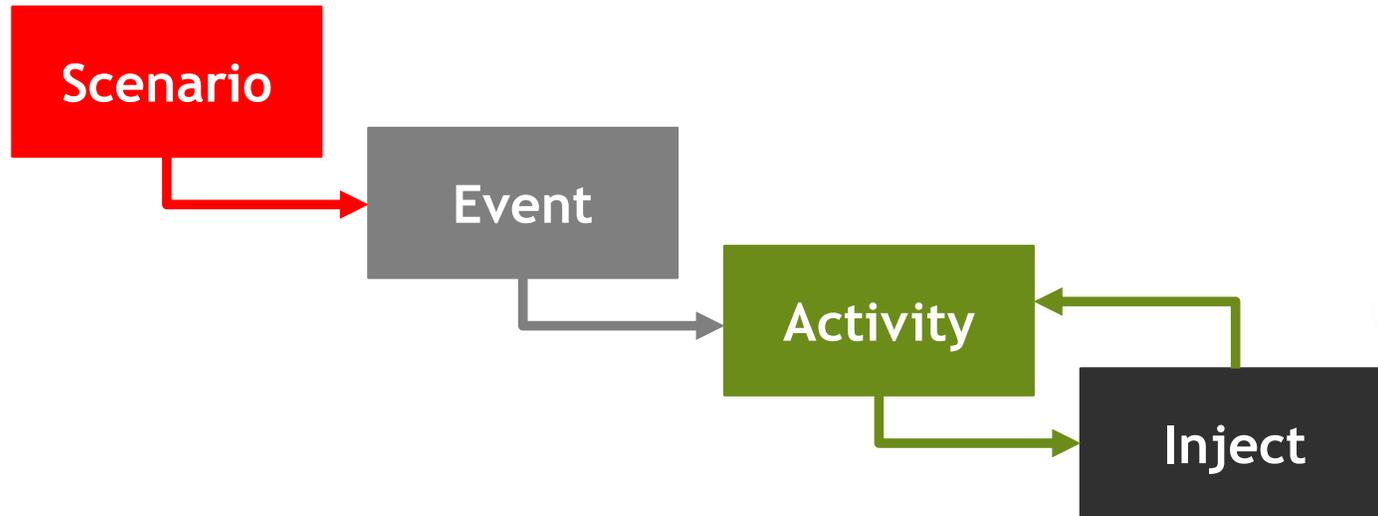
An **activity** is performed to address an **event**.

- Delimiting surveys,
- Restrictions on movement of host plants,
- Communication campaigns.



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An output



An **inject** is an occurrence that is designed to test the contingency plan and the Outbreak Management Team

Destruction or removal of trees, **inject** = refusal of access

Communication plan, **inject** = key stakeholders disseminating incorrect

The exercise



Six groups

Each group is an 'Outbreak Management Team'

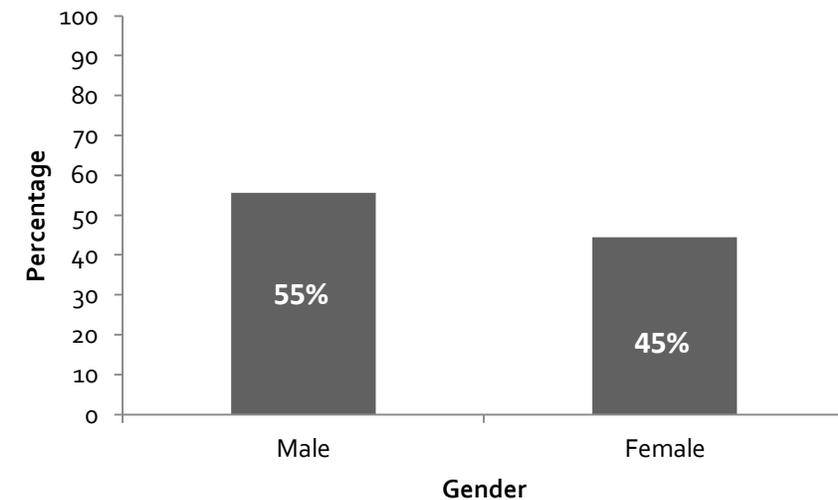
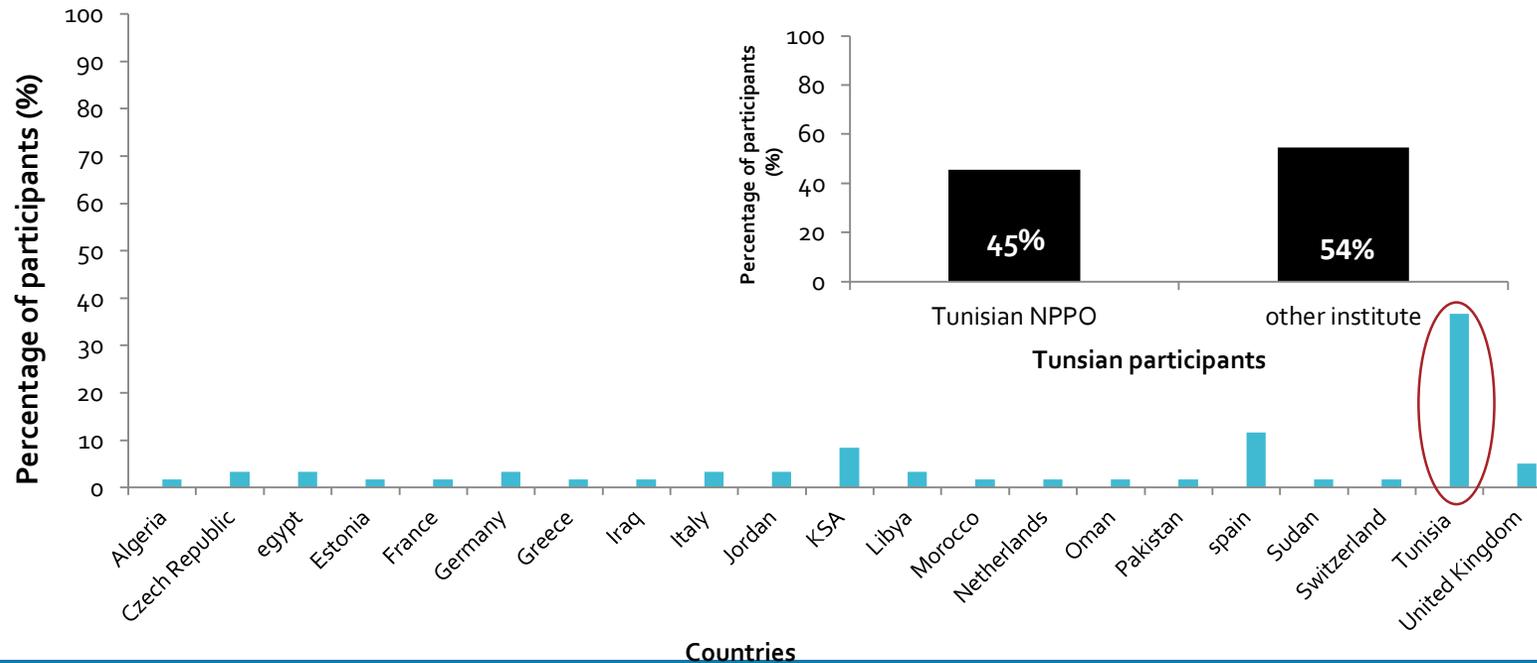
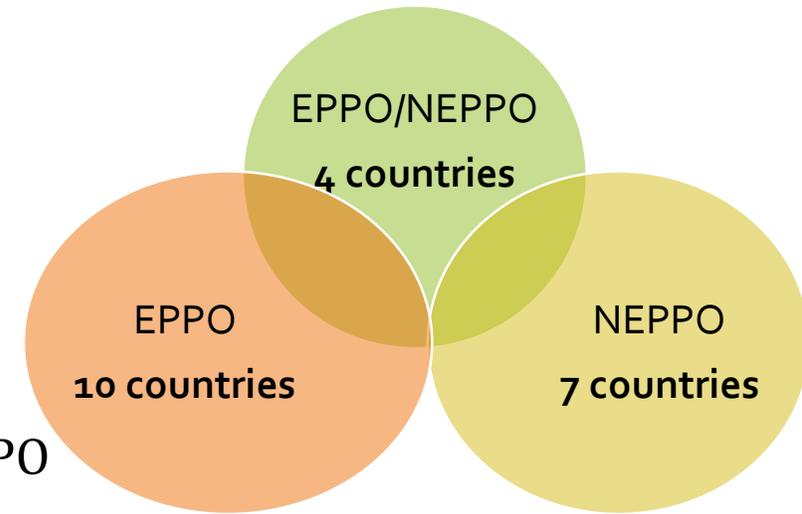
The scenario develops over time

Inputs from the field, laboratory and from the headquarters

The groups decide their responses and actions

Participation

- **72** specialists in plant protection
- Participants belong to **21** countries
- Between 1 and 22 participants from each country
- **5** partners are involved in this workshop: BeXyl, EFSA, EPPO, FAO and NEPPO
- Distribution of gender is almost **50%**





Resources

- The groups (**You!**) – lots of expertise
- EPPO Extranet – key documents in English and Arabic
- Examples of contingency plans French and Spanish
- EFSA Pest survey card
- EPPO Global Database
- Etc.....



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The Programme

Meeting agenda

Monday 26th May

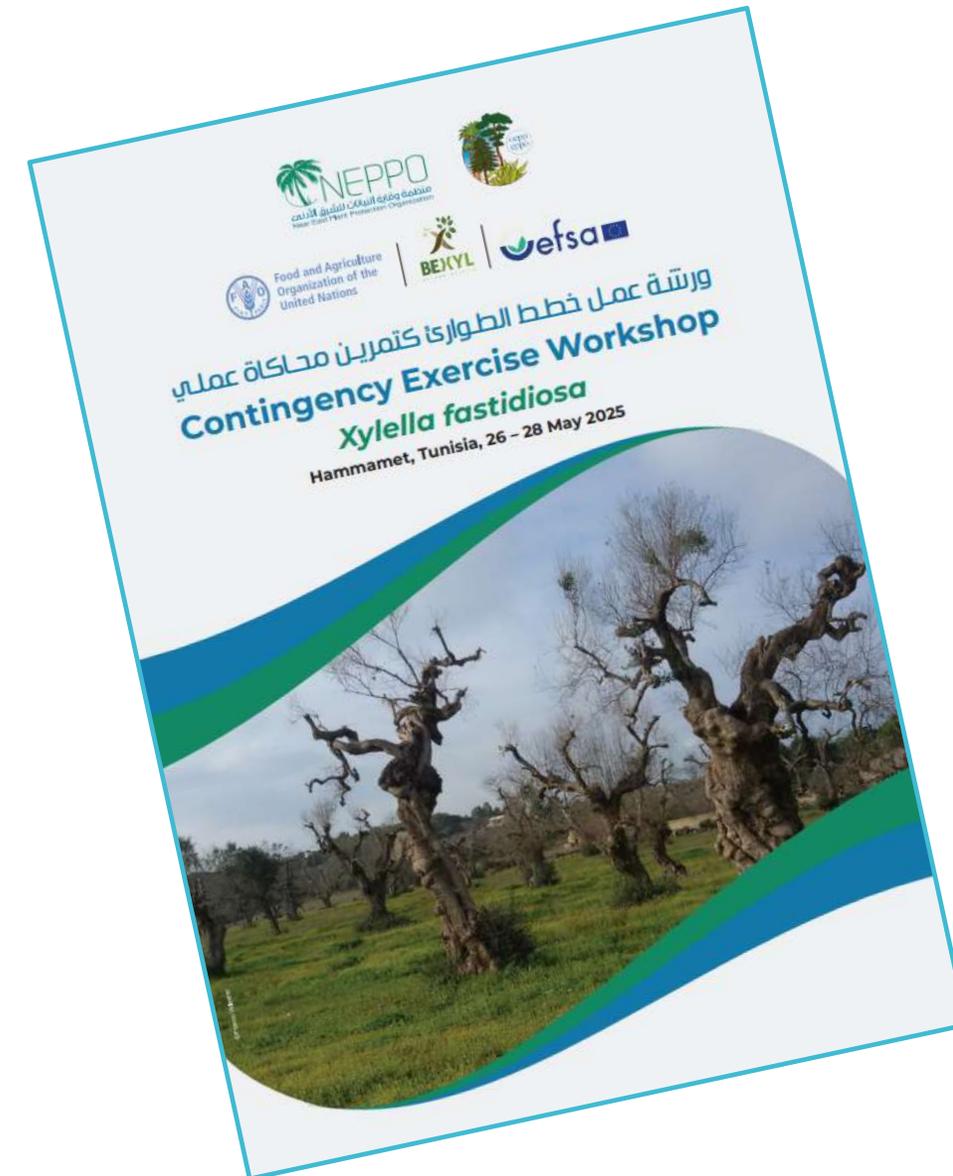
08:00	Registration
08:45	Opening and welcome <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Representative from Minister of Agriculture, Water Resources and Fisheries, Tunisia » Mohamed Habib Ben Jamâa, NEPPPO Executive Director » Olga Tikka, EPPO Director-General » Naima Mahfoudhi, DGSVCIA Director General (NPPO Tunisia)
Setting the scene – presentations	
09:00	Multi-partner collaborations can build resilience in preventing and mitigating pest outbreaks in the Mediterranean basin <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Olga Tikka (EPPO)
09:20	The approaches of NEPPPO for the emerging pests in NENA Region <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Mohamed Habib Ben Jamâa (NEPPPO)
09:40	Contingency planning for pest outbreaks <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Rob Tanner (EPPO)
10:00	Contingency plan for <i>Xylella fastidiosa</i>: Tunisian case <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Mohamed Habib Ben Jamâa (NEPPPO)
10:15	Scientific knowledge required for preparing contingency plans for <i>Xylella fastidiosa</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Sybren Vos (EFSA)
10:30	BEXYL project: Beyond <i>Xylella</i>, Integrated Management Strategies for Mitigating <i>Xylella fastidiosa</i> impact in Europe <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Juan Navas-Cortes (BeXyl)
10:45	Coffee break
Contingency planning – the simulation exercise	
11:10	Break into groups for the contingency exercise
13:00	Lunch
14:00	Group exercise (RIPEST)
16:00	Coffee break
16:30	Group exercise continued
17:00	Biology and ecology of <i>Xylella fastidiosa</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Marie-Agnès Jacques (IRHS-INRAE, FR)
17:15	Aphrophoridae candidate vectors of <i>Xylella fastidiosa</i> in Tunisia <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Sonia Boukhris-Bouhachem (INRAT)
17:30	Group exercise continued
18:00	Tunisian NPPO and introduction to the field trip <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Naima Mahfoudhi (DGSVCIA)
18:30	Close of the day

Tuesday 27th May (Field trip)

06:45	Meet in hotel lobby to depart
07:00	Depart from hotel to Sadira (Mornag)
08:30	Arrive at Sadira
08:30	Presentation of the region
09:00	Field inspection and sampling (see page 9 for details)
10:30	Coffee break
11:00	Depart to DGPVCIA
11:45	Arrive at DGPVCIA
11:45	Presentation of the DGPVCIA
12:00	Laboratory exercise
15:00	Packed lunch
16:00	Visit to old city (Tunis)
18:30	Depart to hotel
20:00	Arrive at hotel and dinner

Wednesday 28th May

08:00	Group exercise
10:00	Economic impacts of <i>Xylella fastidiosa</i> for Europe <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Antonio Vicent (IVA, ES)
10:15	Exploring the Potential Socio-Economic Impacts of <i>Xylella fastidiosa</i> in the NENA Region <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Thaer Yaseen (FAO-RNE, Egypt)
10:30	Coffee break
11:00	Group exercise
13:00	Lunch
14:00	Group presentations
15:30	Summary and conclusions
16:00	Close



Thanks for listening

- Enjoy – it's an exercise
- Its not real: it's a fictitious scenario
- Get involved



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