

# Annual Operational Plan

2014/2015



Plant Health  
AUSTRALIA



Plant Health Australia (PHA) is the national coordinator of the government-industry partnership for plant biosecurity in Australia. PHA facilitates this partnership and drives action to improve policy, practice and performance of Australia's plant biosecurity system and to build capability to respond to plant pest emergencies.

**Location:** Level 1, 1 Phipps Close  
DEAKIN ACT 2600  
**Phone:** +61 2 6215 7700  
**Fax:** +61 2 6260 4321  
**E-mail:** admin@phau.com.au  
**Website:** www.planthealthaustralia.com.au

ISSN: 1832-7559

© Plant Health Australia 2014



This work is copyright. Apart from any use as permitted under the *Copyright Act 1968*, no part may be reproduced by any process without prior permission from Plant Health Australia. Requests and enquiries concerning reproduction and rights should be addressed to:

Communications Manager  
Plant Health Australia  
Level 1, 1 Phipps Close  
DEAKIN ACT 2600

An electronic version of this report is available for download from the PHA website. Print copies can be provided by contacting PHA.

**Disclaimer:**

This publication is published by Plant Health Australia Limited (PHA) for information purposes only. Although reasonable care was taken in its preparation, PHA does not warrant the accuracy, reliability, completeness or currency of the information, or its usefulness in fulfilling any purpose.

To the fullest extent permitted by law, PHA will not be liable for any loss, damage, cost or expense incurred in, or arising by reason of, any person relying on the information in this publication. Readers should make and rely on their own assessment and enquires to verify the accuracy of the information provided.

# Contents

<b>FOREWORD</b> .....	2
PHA's Strategic Plan 2011-2016 .....	4
<b>FINANCIAL OVERVIEW</b> .....	6
Expenditure .....	6
PHA Membership and EPPRD Signatories .....	7
Proposed subscription income for 2014/2015 .....	8
Summary of PHA activity for 2014/2015 .....	10
<b>RISK MANAGEMENT</b> .....	11
Risk management programs for 2014/2015 .....	11
IBP development and review .....	11
Biosecurity preparedness and implementation .....	11
Plant Biosecurity Cooperative Research Centre .....	12
National Fruit Fly Strategy governance .....	12
Non-subscription funded projects .....	12
Risk Management budget and KPIs for 2014/2015 .....	15
<b>EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE</b> .....	17
Emergency Preparedness and Response programs for 2014/2015 .....	17
EPPRD management .....	17
National EPPRD training program .....	17
Incursion management .....	18
Non-subscription funded projects .....	18
Preparedness and Response budget and KPIs for 2014/2015 .....	19
<b>PARTNERSHIPS</b> .....	20
Partnerships programs for 2014/2015 .....	20
Member liaison .....	20
National committees .....	20
Corporate communication .....	20
National strategies and systems support .....	21
Strategic planning, reporting and evaluation .....	21
Reporting on the status of Australia's plant biosecurity system .....	21
National Plant Biosecurity Strategy implementation .....	21
Non-subscription funded projects .....	22
Partnerships budget and KPIs for 2014/2015 .....	23
<b>COMPANY MANAGEMENT</b> .....	25
Company Management programs for 2014/2015 .....	25
Board program .....	25
Company management and administration .....	25
Company Management budget and KPIs for 2014/2015 .....	26
<b>GLOSSARY</b> .....	27

# FOREWORD

## From the Chairman and the CEO

This Annual Operational Plan (AOP) sets out another ambitious range of programs and projects for PHA to conduct over the 12 months beginning July 2014. The production of the plan follows valuable consultation with Members to confirm company priorities and to agree expenditure of subscription funds.

The following pages chart a busy year for the company, with activities targeted at fulfilling the strategic direction set out in PHA's Strategic Plan 2011-2016 (see pp. 4-5). The company is in a sound financial position, allowing subscriptions to remain at current levels.

Subscription funded programs to be delivered are described under the four operational areas of Risk Management, Emergency Preparedness and Response, Partnerships, and Company Management. Other projects that have been commissioned with separate funding are also described, this year accounting for over \$3.2 million.

Risk Management again encompasses the largest proportion of activities with a budget of \$3.3 million, of which more than 90% is non-subscription based. Biosecurity planning for particular crops and industries is a main focus for this budget area.

Additional funding for projects has been provided by industry Members to strengthen risk management in the grains, citrus, sugarcane, cotton, forestry and processing tomatoes industries - an impressive array. Among these initiatives are biosecurity officers employed on the ground to boost biosecurity in the potato and vegetables, and citrus industries, in a similar way to the long-running Grains Farm Biosecurity Program.

Groups of Members have also obtained funding for initiatives that have benefits for many. Among them are the continuing honey bee biosecurity projects, including a valuable surveillance program to provide early warning of any incursion of bee pests and pest bees. Members have also come together as the National Working Party on Pesticide Applications which is generating data to inform spray drift regulation in Australia.

Government and Horticulture Australia Limited (HAL) funding has now been secured to advance the National Fruit Fly Strategy (NFFS) over the coming year. The considerable benefit of coordinating fruit fly management has been established, so PHA welcomes the opportunity to continue the implementation of the NFFS Action Plan.

PHA has been commissioned by non-Members to undertake biosecurity planning for the cut flower, blueberry and truffle industries. Additional funding from industry and government will allow implementation of the RD&E framework developed by PHA through the Primary Industries Standing Committee to improve the coordination of plant biosecurity research.

Management and administration of the Emergency Plant Pest Response Deed (EPPRD) will again be central to company activities. As Affected Parties will be aware, PHA provides assistance, support and advice during emergency plant pest incursions, and parties have indicated appreciation for our assistance and leadership in what are challenging times.

Far from being a static agreement, the Deed has grown alongside the biosecurity system. It's hard to believe that we are approaching the second five year review of the EPPRD, due to begin before October 2015. PHA will begin discussions with signatories on the terms and scope of the review during this financial year to get that process underway.

Behind the scenes a great deal of work goes on to ensure that the Deed continues to evolve to meet the need of Parties and Australia's biosecurity system. Every incursion is different, and each time the

provisions are activated it becomes clear where improvements can be made. Channels of communication between Affected Parties have been enhanced and central mechanisms including the categorisation process have been revised and improved. Even the scope of the agreement is being considered with a proposal to extend it to cover transition to management of a pest.

Training for people who will potentially be involved in emergency responses is an ongoing responsibility.. This year the Deed team will run simulations of an emergency plant pest incursion affecting the citrus and grains industries. These will be valuable preparedness initiatives that bring together the diverse parties to provide a realistic rehearsal of their roles in preparation for a real emergency.

Under the banner of Partnerships, PHA will continue the exchange of views and information with Members to ensure a shared understanding of the company and plant biosecurity in Australia. This operational area absorbs a significant proportion of subscription funding, reflecting the importance given to building active, constructive relationships to improve the plant biosecurity system.

With non-subscription funding from the Australian Government, work continues to build national diagnostic and surveillance networks, as recommended in the National Plant Biosecurity Strategy. The drive to enhance these links provides maximum efficiency of resources.

With the same thrust of getting the best use of resources, PHA will continue to build the Biosecurity Portal funded by the Australian Government and PHA. The Portal will provide biosecurity professionals with a centralised access point to data on surveillance, diagnostics, training, technical information, tools, legislation and national policies and strategies.

PHA will also be developing a surveillance coordination centre funded by a National Landcare Program Innovation grant. This three year project will deliver a virtual co-ordination centre that will enable community groups, regional bodies, agricultural industries and jurisdictions to contribute to and access real time surveillance information on weeds and plant pests.

As always, effective company management is the foundation for all activity and PHA will uphold high standards of efficiency, transparency and accountability in the best interests of Members.

As Members are aware, PHA signed a Memorandum of Understanding with AHA in November 2011. One of the specific projects was to develop a timetable and plan for co-location of PHA and AHA and the sharing of administrative and support services. To implement this project the Boards of PHA and AHA established a co-location steering committee made up of two non-executive directors from each company, the CEOs and Company Secretaries. This steering committee is in the process of developing a benefit-cost analysis based on existing and new accommodation options. It is proposed that PHA will only co-locate with AHA where a positive cost benefit can be shown. It is our intention to fund initial costs associated with co-location from company reserves which will be rebuilt from the savings of co-location in the short to medium term.

Thanks go to PHA staff for preparing this AOP, on behalf of our fellow directors. We are confident that the talented and dedicated team we have at PHA will rise to the opportunities and challenges ahead and continue to work closely with Members. The resulting enhancements to the plant biosecurity system in Australia will reflect our combined and concerted efforts.



Dr Tony Gregson AM, FTSE  
Chairman  
May 2014



Mr Greg Fraser  
Executive Director & CEO

# PHA's Strategic Plan 2011-2016

PHA's yearly operations are guided by the company's 2011-2016 Strategic Plan. The six strategies which guide activities of the company are to:

## **1. Strengthen partnerships**

PHA will seek to extend the company's reach, including closer involvement of beneficiaries of biosecurity along the value chain and biosecurity continuum. Greater cross-sectoral coordination will be required to improve the national biosecurity system, resulting in reduced duplication of effort, increased efficiency and better biosecurity outcomes.

## **2. Enhance operation and integrity of the EPPRD**

The Emergency Plant Pest Response Deed remains of central importance to the future of the company. PHA has a leadership role in guiding operation of the Emergency Plant Pest Response Deed including using the company's in-depth knowledge and asserting its independence in relation to review processes and committee structures. PHA also has an obligation to assist signatories to meet their commitments under the Deed.

## **3. Assist Members manage biosecurity risks**

PHA will continue to play a significant role in supporting industry and government efforts to reduce the risks posed by Emergency Plant Pests. This includes having input to agency programs to improve threat prevention and biosecurity preparedness along the continuum, and industry preparedness activities through plans, on-farm programs, contingency plans and surveillance.

## **4. Monitor and promote performance of Australia's plant biosecurity system**

To instill confidence that government and industry are sharing responsibility and meeting obligations in relation to prevention, preparedness and response, PHA will monitor and sensitively report on performance of partners and the plant biosecurity system as a whole. PHA will also promote positive achievements and performance of the system in order to strengthen the nation's position when it comes to negotiating market access and competitive advantage in domestic and international trade.

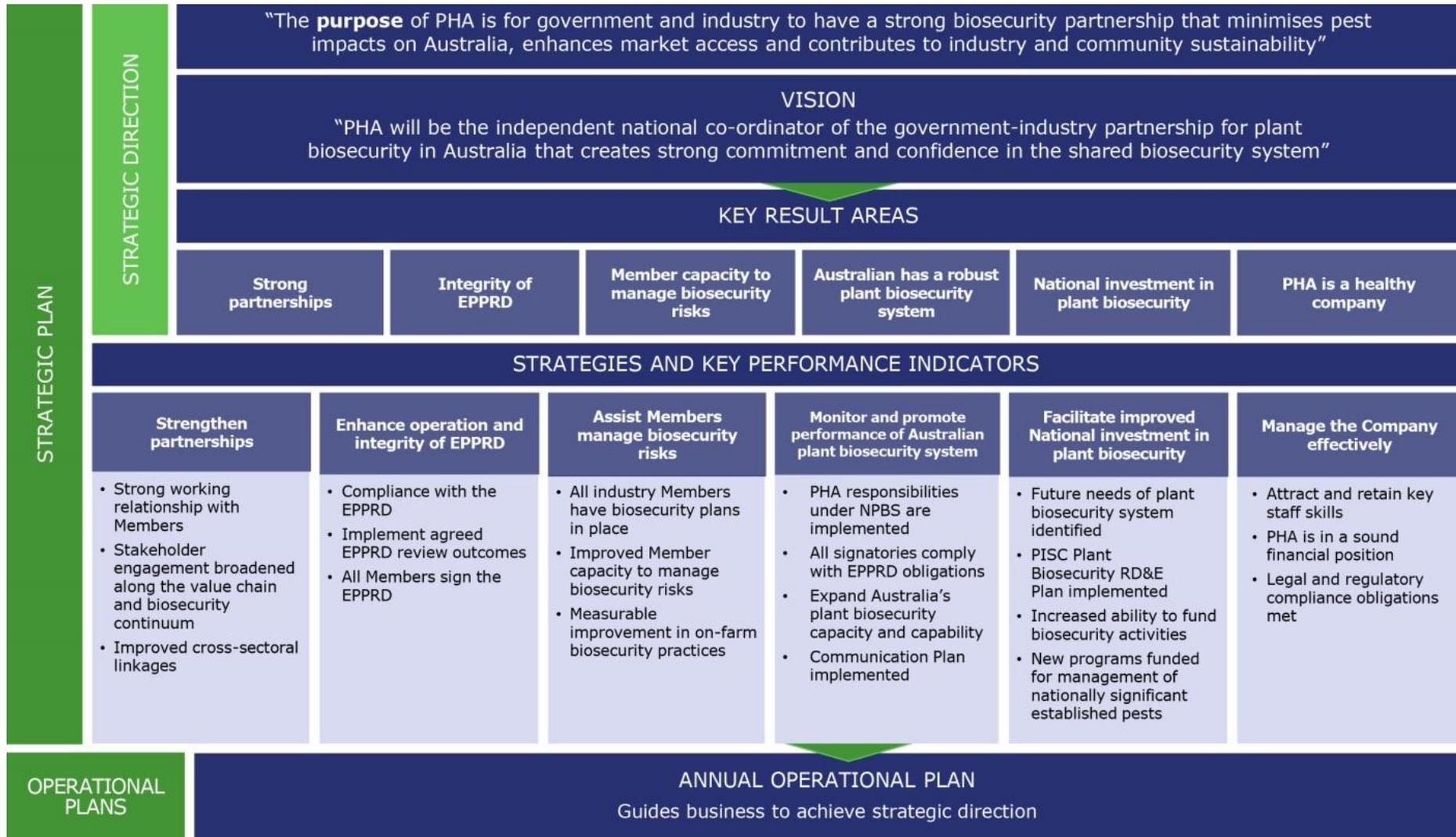
## **5. Facilitate improved national investment in plant biosecurity**

The capacity and capability challenges being faced by the national plant biosecurity system demands new approaches together with better cooperation across jurisdictions and across the biosecurity continuum. PHA will play a role in ensuring that funding parties are aware of the optimal level of resourcing needed to balance biosecurity risks and returns. PHA will support endeavours to establish and maintain biosecurity-based levies to address risk mitigation and emergency response imperatives. The National Plant Biosecurity Strategy (NPBS), developed by PHA and endorsed by stakeholders, charts the path to improved national cooperation and coordination. Seeing the NPBS adopted and implemented will be an important goal for PHA.

## **6. Manage the company effectively**

Sound company management ensures that the partnership has solid foundations. It also instills confidence that the business is being run in the interests of Members with efficient use of resources. A key priority is attracting and retaining expert and experienced staff members.

## PHA's Strategic Plan 2011-2016



## FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

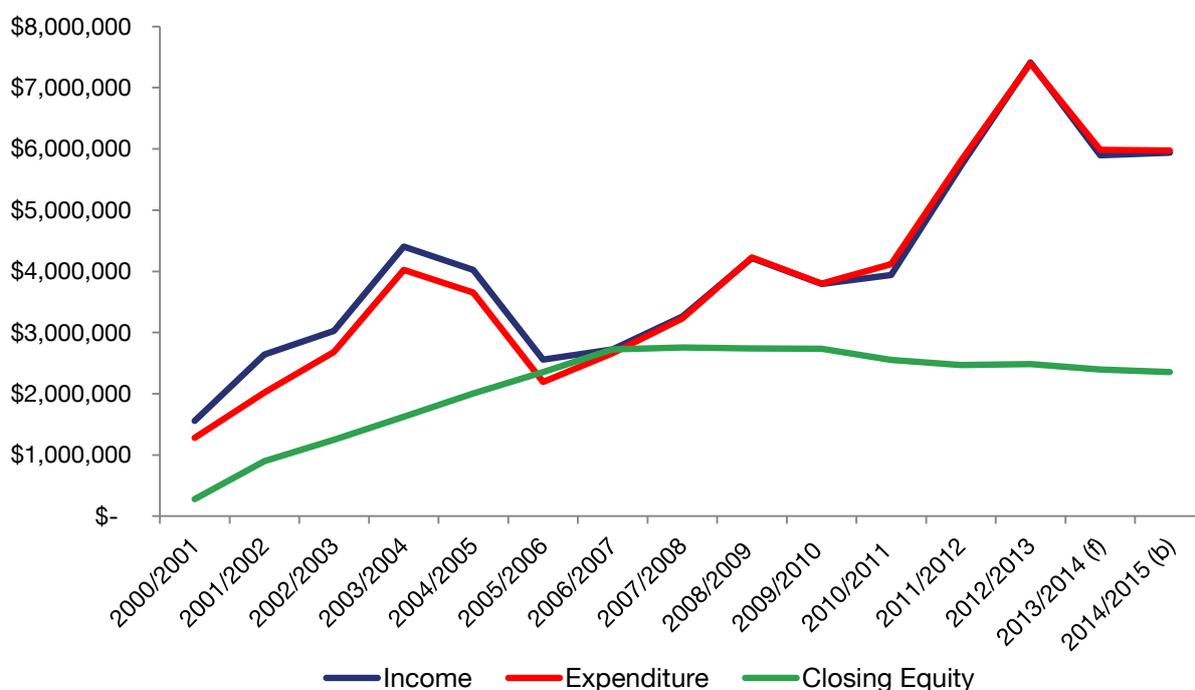
Subscriptions for 2014/2015 remain the same as the last two years set at \$780,000 each for the Australian Government, state and territory governments and industry peak bodies (Table 1).

PHA is currently forecasting a deficit for this financial year of \$89,000 compared to a budget deficit of \$49,000. The variance to budget is due to unbudgeted expenditure in the EPPRD and RD&E areas as advised at regional meetings held recently.

It is forecast that a budget deficit of \$37,000 will occur in 2014/2015 if PHA maintains the current level of subscription funded work for Members. PHA has sufficient reserves in place to fund this deficit without compromising the company's reserves policy.

Figure 1 shows the actual, forecast and budgeted movement in income, expenditure and equity since the 2001/2002 financial year.

**Figure 1: Income, expenditure and closing equity, 2001/2002–2014/2015**



**Notes:** (f) forecast (b) budget

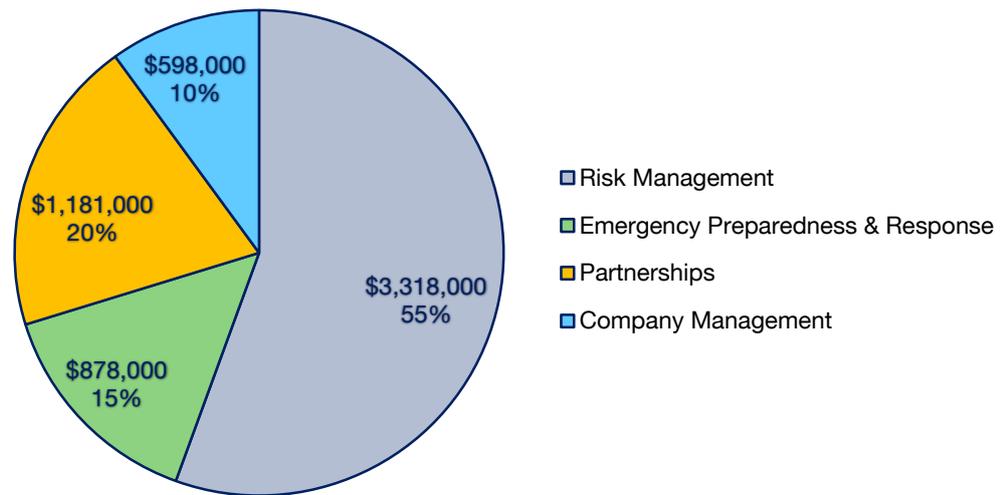
### Expenditure

The budget for the 2014/2015 year has been allocated into four areas in similar proportions to last year (Figure 2). This chart of total expenditure shows that Risk Management once again accounts for over half of expenditure (55%), with Partnerships the next largest area (20%).

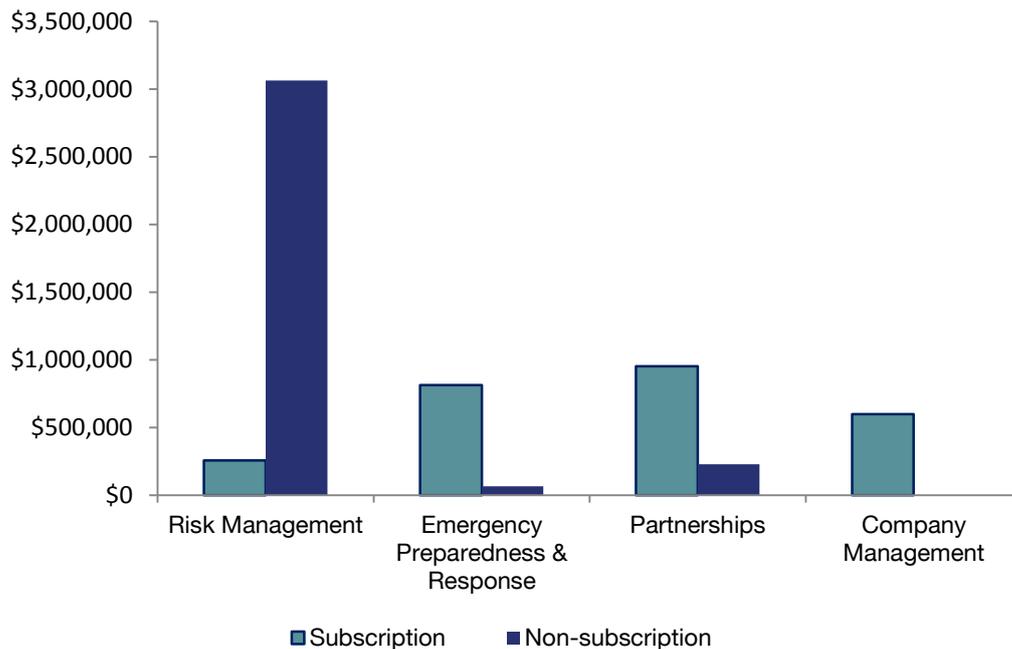
The pattern of expenditure for subscription income alone, however, is quite different; Partnerships activities account for the largest proportion of subscription funds with 36%, followed by Emergency Preparedness and Response at 31%. Company management accounts for just under one quarter (23%) and Risk Management is smallest, at less than 10%.

On the other hand, non-subscription income secured by Members or groups of Members for additional biosecurity services is invested largely in Risk Management initiatives, reducing risks specific to them. Figure 3 illustrates how subscription and non-subscription funds are spent.

**Figure 2: PHA expenditure by budget area, 2014/2015**



**Figure 3. Subscription and non-subscription expenditure, 2014/2015**

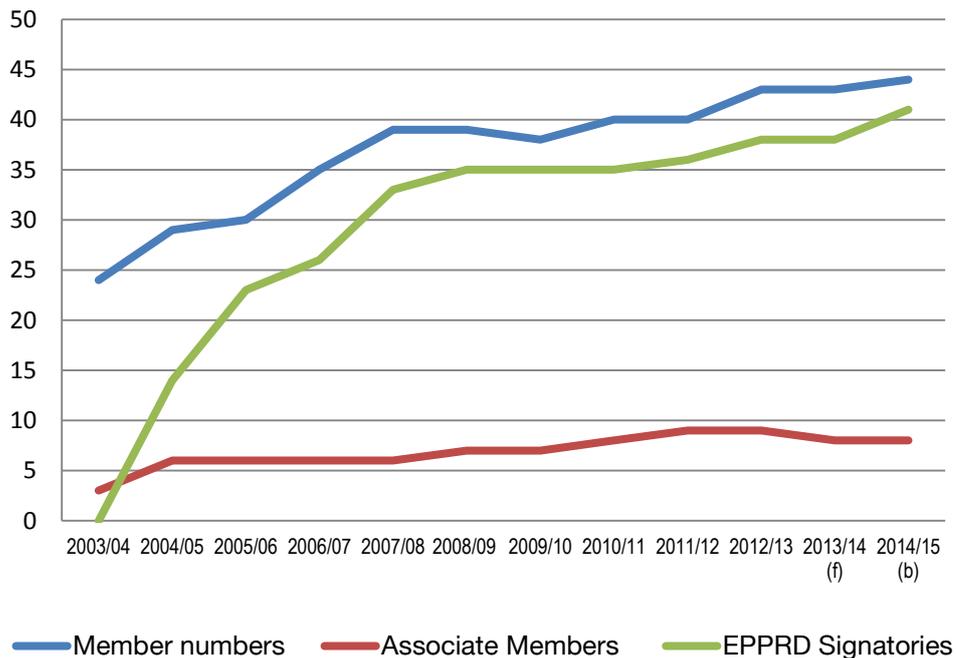


**PHA Membership and EPPRD signatories**

Member and EPPRD signatory numbers since the company’s formation are shown in Figure 4. The number of government and industry Members of PHA has been maintained at 43. With eight Associate Members, down from nine last year, PHA has a total of 51 Members.

The number of EPPRD industry and government signatories remains at 38. Members who joined PHA during 2012/2013 are taking steps to become signatories which may see numbers rise over the coming 12 months.

**Figure 4: Member and EPPRD Signatory numbers, 2001/2002–2014/2015**



**Notes:** (f) forecast (b) budget

### Proposed subscription income for 2014/2015

The calculation of Membership subscriptions for 2014/2015 is presented in Table 1. The contribution made by each of the three main Membership categories remains at \$780,000. Members will be asked to approve total subscriptions by Member category at the 13th General Meeting on 13 May 2014.

The variation in individual subscription levels between years is due to shifts in Local Value of Production (LVP) for different industries which, in turn, affects the relative proportion of individual Member subscription shares calculated in accordance with the three-year rolling average subscription formula set out in the PHA Constitution.

The 2014/2015 draft subscriptions were calculated using data over the three years 2009/2010, 2010/2011 and 2011/2012. LVPs are calculated from figures provided by the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS), the Australian Bureau of Agriculture and Resource Economics and Sciences (ABARES) or, if neither option is available, a source deemed appropriate by PHA’s directors.

**Table 1: PHA proposed subscription funding in 2014/2015**

Member	Actual 2013/14 (\$)	Estimated 2014/15 (\$)	\$ change	% change	%
<b>Australian Government</b>					
Australian Government	780,000	780,000	0	0.0%	33.11%
<b>State Governments</b>					
NSW	186,745	189,906	3,161	1.7%	8.06%
VIC	140,594	143,995	3,401	2.4%	6.11%
QLD	157,154	158,228	1,074	0.7%	6.72%
SA	119,993	119,475	-518	-0.4%	5.07%
WA	153,999	148,861	-5,138	-3.3%	6.32%
TAS	17,771	15,806	-1,965	-11.1%	0.67%
NT	2,244	2,229	-15	-0.7%	0.09%
ACT	1,500	1,500	0	0.0%	0.06%
	<b>780,000</b>	<b>780,000</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0.0%</b>	<b>33.11%</b>
<b>Industry</b>					
Almond Board of Australia Inc	6,001	6,041	40	0.7%	0.26%
Apple and Pear Australia Ltd	21,989	19,350	-2,639	-12.0%	0.82%
Australian Banana Growers Council Inc	12,195	12,737	542	4.4%	0.54%
Australian Forest Products Association Limited	50,799	49,092	-1,707	-3.4%	2.08%
Australian Ginger Industry Association	1,500	1,500	0	0.0%	0.06%
Australian Honey Bee Industry Council Inc	2,876	2,728	-148	-5.1%	0.12%
Australian Lychee Growers Association Inc	1,500	1,500	0	0.0%	0.06%
Australian Macadamia Society Ltd	2,420	2,915	495	20.5%	0.12%
Australian Mango Industry Association Ltd	3,930	3,333	-597	-15.2%	0.14%
Australian Olive Association Ltd	3,701	4,895	1,194	32.3%	0.21%
Australian Processing Tomato Research Council Inc	1,500	1,500	0	0.0%	0.06%
Australian Table Grape Association Inc	8,741	8,555	-186	-2.1%	0.36%
Australian Walnut Industry Association	1,500	1,500	0	0.0%	0.06%
AUSVEG Limited	71,453	72,197	744	1.0%	3.06%
Avocados Australia Ltd	3,708	3,595	-113	-3.0%	0.15%
CANEGROWERS	44,685	43,149	-1,536	-3.4%	1.83%
Canned Fruits Industry Council of Australia	1,500	1,500	0	0.0%	0.06%
Cherry Growers of Australia Inc	4,310	3,615	-695	-16.1%	0.15%
Chestnuts Australia Incorporated	1,500	1,500	0	0.0%	0.06%
Citrus Australia Ltd	14,114	13,698	-416	-2.9%	0.58%
Cotton Australia Ltd	43,451	61,737	18,286	42.1%	2.62%
Dried Fruits Australia Inc	1,604	1,949	345	21.5%	0.08%
Grain Producers Australia Limited	381,289	373,006	-8,283	-2.2%	15.83%
GROWCOM	2,294	2,190	-104	-4.5%	0.09%
Hazelnut Growers of Australia Incorporated	1,500	1,500	0	0.0%	0.06%
Nursery & Garden Industry Australia Ltd	25,107	23,790	-1,317	-5.2%	1.01%
Onions Australia	7,968	7,276	-692	-8.7%	0.31%
Passionfruit Australia Incorporated	1,500	1,500	0	0.0%	0.06%
Pistachio Growers Association Incorporated	1,500	1,500	0	0.0%	0.06%
Raspberries and Blackberries Australia Inc	1,500	1,500	0	0.0%	0.06%
Ricegrowers Association of Australia Inc	3,748	5,896	2,148	57.3%	0.25%
Strawberries Australia Inc	7,479	7,461	-18	-0.2%	0.32%
Summerfruit Australia Limited	8,963	8,143	-820	-9.1%	0.35%
Wine Grape Growers of Australia	32,175	27,652	-4,523	-14.1%	1.17%
	<b>780,000</b>	<b>780,000</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0.0%</b>	<b>33.11%</b>
<b>Associate</b>					
Cotton Research and Development Corporation	2,000	2,000	0	0.0%	0.08%
CSIRO	2,000	2,000	0	0.0%	0.08%
Grains Research and Development Corporation	2,000	2,000	0	0.0%	0.08%
Grape and Wine Research and Development Corporation	2,000	2,000	0	0.0%	0.08%
Horticulture Australia Ltd	2,000	2,000	0	0.0%	0.08%
Plant Biosecurity CRC	2,000	2,000	0	0.0%	0.08%
Sugar Research Australia	2,000	2,000	0	0.0%	0.08%
Victorian Farmers Federation	2,000	2,000	0	0.0%	0.08%
	16,000	16,000	0	0.0%	0.68%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2,356,000</b>	<b>2,356,000</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

## Summary of PHA activity for 2014/2015

Program areas	Budget (\$) 2014/2015
<b>Risk Management</b>	
IBP development and review	27,000
Biosecurity preparedness and implementation	154,000
Plant Biosecurity CRC	43,000
National Fruit Fly Strategy governance	31,000
<b>Total subscription funding</b>	<b>255,000</b>
Non-subscription funded projects	3,063,000
<b>Total Risk Management</b>	<b>3,318,000</b>
<b>Emergency Preparedness and Response</b>	
EPPRD management	477,000
EPPRD training	182,000
Incursion management	153,000
<b>Total subscription funding</b>	<b>812,000</b>
Non-subscription funded projects	66,000
<b>Total Emergency Preparedness and Response</b>	<b>878,000</b>
<b>Partnerships</b>	
Member liaison	273,000
National committees	148,000
Corporate communication	321,000
National information systems support	27,000
Strategic planning, reporting and evaluation	95,000
Reporting on the status of the national plant biosecurity system	49,000
National Plant Biosecurity Strategy implementation	10,000
Business opportunities and emerging issues	30,000
<b>Total subscription funding</b>	<b>953,000</b>
Non-subscription funded projects	228,000
<b>Total Partnerships</b>	<b>1,181,000</b>
<b>Company Management</b>	
PHA Board program	226,000
Company finance and administration	372,000
<b>Total Company Management</b>	<b>598,000</b>
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>5,975,000</b>

## RISK MANAGEMENT

Risk Management activities include mechanisms to identify, prepare for and manage threats to plant based agriculture and the environment. These activities account for over one-third of PHA's budget, reflecting their importance. The benefits are considerable and felt by individual producers, plant industries and rural economies and, importantly, work to protect valuable trade markets.

Included are a range of initiatives to prevent or minimise the likelihood of entry, establishment and spread of exotic pests. Activities range from analysis and reporting for development of national policies to campaigns that raise the biosecurity awareness of individual producers.

Programs that assist Members to manage biosecurity risks contribute to the achievement of critical outcomes being sought over the life of the 2011-2016 Strategic Plan. These include:

- Improving Member capability and performance in early post-border detection and reporting.
- Having biosecurity plans and implementation strategies to cover all industry Members.
- Improving national preparedness to respond to incursions of high priority exotic pests.
- Enhancing surveillance and contingency plans in place to meet highest priority needs.
- Improving biosecurity practices on-farm.
- Contributing to national biosecurity communication and engagement objectives.
- Improving market recognition of the biosecurity measures adopted by plant producers.
- Boosting recognition of the economic importance of the plant sector and the impact of biosecurity pest threats on food security.
- Building partnerships with industry representatives and jurisdictional officers to assist promotion of improved farm biosecurity.
- Providing information, tools, education and support to assist producers to identify their enterprise's largest biosecurity risks.
- Boosting Member investment in biosecurity risk mitigation through PHA.

### Risk management programs for 2014/2015

#### IBP development and review

PHA works with Members to develop Industry Biosecurity Plans (IBPs). These documents are industry or crop specific plans that identify, assess and prioritise biosecurity risks and provide a framework for biosecurity risk mitigation and preparedness.

Regular updating of IBPs helps identify new pest threats and their pathways and provides a mechanism to incorporate changes in biosecurity legislation and risk assessment processes. New and revised IBPs are jointly endorsed by governments and the respective industries.

#### Biosecurity preparedness and implementation

PHA operates a Farm Biosecurity Program jointly with AHA, to raise awareness of pest threats and recommended biosecurity practices among producers and the wider community. It contains information for both plant and animal producers in recognition of mixed farming enterprises.

The communication program centres around a website with practical information on how producers can include aspects of biosecurity into everyday farm practices to mitigate the risks of introducing or spreading pests. The website features a profile builder to help tailor content for producers, in addition to providing generic farm biosecurity advice.

Under the Farm Biosecurity brand, PHA disseminates articles about plant biosecurity issues to producers via an e-newsletter and through articles published in newspapers, industry magazines and online outlets. A recent survey of producers shows that awareness of the program has risen from around one quarter to one third of farmers over the past three years.

## **Plant Biosecurity Cooperative Research Centre**

The Australian Government's Cooperative Research Centre (CRC) program provides funding to build critical mass in research ventures between end-users and researchers that tackles clearly-articulated, major challenges for the end-users. PHA is a participant of the Plant Biosecurity Cooperative Research Centre (PBCRC) which was established in 2012, following on from the CRC for National Plant Biosecurity.

PHA contributes to management arrangements of the PBCRC through representation on Participant and Management Committees, input on project priorities, and as a research provider and adoption facilitator.

## **National Fruit Fly Strategy implementation**

In June 2012, PHA and ABARES estimated that implementing the National Fruit Fly Strategy (NFFS) Action Plan would bring economic benefits of between \$29 and \$38 million per year. PHA has been funded to re-establish an advisory committee to drive the plan, providing a nationally coordinated approach to fruit fly management in Australia. The PHA Board has agreed that this is a strategically important and nationally significant initiative, requiring PHA investment.

## **Non-subscription funded projects**

These projects are funded by Members or groups of Members to provide services above those provided by subscriptions.

### **Grains Farm Biosecurity Program**

This program, operating since 2007, supports biosecurity in the grains industry that goes well beyond the level offered through subscription-funded activities. The centrepiece of the program is the appointment of a Grains Biosecurity Officer in five states, responsible for identifying and developing networks for the collection of surveillance data for key grain pest threats and development in their state, and for delivering training and awareness material.

PHA provides management of the program and assists officers with communications support to obtain media coverage and develop awareness material. The Grains Biosecurity Officers are playing an increasingly important role in providing extension services to growers whilst at the same time providing national leadership in key areas.

**MoU ends June 2015**

### **IBP development and review**

In 2014/2015, PHA has been funded to prepare biosecurity plans for Members: citrus, sugarcane, processing tomatoes, cotton and grains; as well as for non-Members: cut flowers, blueberries, and truffles.

**Various completion dates until June 2016**

### **Biosecurity manuals**

Funding has been secured to develop manuals on best practice biosecurity for producers of citrus, forestry and sugarcane.

**For completion by June 2015**

### **Honey bee biosecurity**

PHA continues to work with a partnership of stakeholders to protect the health of Australia's honey bees. This year's program includes completion of a honey bee biosecurity website, continuation of the national surveillance program and development of a strategy to manage American foulbrood disease.

Given funding, PHA will also continue working with AHBIC to establish the National Bee Biosecurity Program, underpinned by a mandatory Biosecurity Code of Practice to improve honey bee health. Modelled on the Grains Farm Biosecurity Program, PHA will work with state governments to place industry-funded Bee Biosecurity Officers in each jurisdiction.

**Various completion dates to July 2015**

### **Enhancing biosecurity engagement**

Increasingly, industry Members of PHA have been funding initiatives to improve biosecurity engagement of producers.

The Citrus Industry Biosecurity Preparedness Project, which commenced in 2013/2014, is a three year program with Citrus Australia to improve industry biosecurity planning, preparedness, and awareness. It includes reviews of the industry biosecurity plan and farm biosecurity manual, the development of a contingency plan for Huanglongbing and its vectors, EPPRD training and a simulation exercise, clarification of Owner Reimbursement Costs for growers and surveillance activities. A citrus biosecurity manager has been appointed to raise awareness of biosecurity among citrus growers and others along the supply chain.

**Contract ends June 2016**

### **National Fruit Fly Strategy Implementation**

With government and HAL funding secured, PHA is implementing the NFFS Action Plan to coordinate fruit fly management across Australia. As part of this program, the Australian Handbook for the Identification of Fruit Flies will be reviewed.

**Contract ends September 2015**

### **Plant RD&E Strategy implementation**

PHA developed a cross sectoral Plant Biosecurity RD&E Strategy for the Primary Industries Standing Committee in 2013/2014. This year PHA will facilitate the development of an implementation plan, which will be made available to research and development organisations to ensure that plant biosecurity RD&E is coordinated around a coordinated national framework.

**Contract currently being negotiated**

### **Supporting the National Working Party on Pesticide Applications**

In 2014/2015, PHA will continue to provide secretariat services, and communications and technical support for the National Working Party on Pesticide Applications (NWPPA), a group commissioned with funding provided by GRDC, HAL, GWRDC, CRDC and SRDC. The work of the group involves examining new and improved ways to determine spray drift.

**Contract ends June 2015**

### **Category 25 pesticide label extensions project**

In 2014/2015 PHA will continue to facilitate the registration of pesticide uses via Category 25 submissions to the APVMA on behalf of the grains industry. Funded by GRDC, the project is part of the Modification to the Pathways program, an initiative designed to facilitate access to necessary pesticide options that are generally not available to growers via pesticide manufacturers and

formulators, and thereby provide a more rapid pathway to registration for ongoing GRDC pesticide research investment. The role of PHA is to manage the generation and provision of technical data by external research providers, in support of the preparation of Category 25 applications by external consultants for PHA to submit to the APVMA by PHA.

**Current project has been extended for one year, ends June 2015**

#### **Pre-emptive APVMA emergency permit development for grains**

Incursions of exotic plant pests must be dealt with quickly because of their adverse effects on productivity, trade and market access. This GRDC-funded project is reviewing gaps in the preparedness of the grains industry to manage future incursions of high priority Exotic Plant Pests. It includes identifying pesticides for use in incursion responses and mapping a pathway for the preparation of Emergency Use Permit submissions to the APVMA for containment and control in the event of an incursion.

The project aims to enhance the biosecurity preparedness of the Australian grains industry by increasing the speed of response in the event of an Exotic Plant Pest incursion.

**Contract ends June 2016**

#### **AUSVEG farm biosecurity program**

PHA is providing administrative support for a Potato and Vegetable Biosecurity and Special Projects Coordinator to enhance biosecurity of producers and along the supply chain.

**MoU ends June 2016**

#### **Extending chemical usefulness**

Chemical application techniques are constantly changing as new technology is developed to reduce spray drift and more efficiently deliver chemicals to where they are needed. This GRDC funded project will first involve a workshop with relevant stakeholders (APVMA, equipment manufacturers, chemical registrants, agriculture industry) to develop a pathway to recognise and allow the use of these new application technologies.

The pathway will then be used to develop suitable data packages for submission to APVMA for recognition of new application methods for specific chemicals that can be made available to growers.

**Contract ends June 2017**

#### **Facilitation of Category 25 submissions for grains project 2014-2017**

PHA is continuing to facilitate the registration of pesticide uses via Category 25 submissions to the APVMA on behalf of the grains industry. This project aims to provide new pesticide options not available to growers through normal registrations of products by pesticide manufacturers.

The role of PHA is to manage the generation and provision of technical data by external research providers, in support of the preparation of Category 25 applications to the APVMA. PHA has called for tenders to generate the first tranche of residue data for Category 25 application. PHA will also co-ordinate the maintenance and use of a national database of GRDC pesticide research projects and training in its use, and deliver an annual priority list for pesticide-crop combinations for permits or label registrations through annual national workshops.

**Contract ends June 2017**

## Risk Management budget and KPIs for 2014/2015

Risk Management	Key Performance Indicators	Budget (\$) 2014/2015
Industry Biosecurity Plan development and review	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All new Industry Members covered by an Industry Biosecurity Plan</li> <li>Update four Industry Biosecurity Plans annually.</li> </ul>	27,000
Biosecurity preparedness and implementation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Well maintained Farm Biosecurity website with improved visitor statistics.</li> <li>20 PHA Farm Biosecurity media releases or articles published online or in industry magazines.</li> <li>Program objectives advanced through regular Steering Committee meetings.</li> <li>Communication tactics that aim to improve producer awareness implemented.</li> </ul>	154,000
Plant Biosecurity CRC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Average annual 0.7 FTE commitment to Plant Biosecurity CRC met.</li> <li>All milestone and reporting commitments for Plant Biosecurity CRC projects met.</li> </ul>	43,000
National Fruit Fly Strategy governance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Governance body established.</li> </ul>	31,000
<b>Total subscription funding</b>		<b>255,000</b>
Non subscription funded projects:		
Grains Farm Biosecurity Program	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Implement communication tactics to raise producer awareness including distributing media releases, having articles published online or in the media, distributing farm biosecurity signs and manuals, attending field days and conferences, and through agronomist and supplier networks.</li> <li>12 <i>Groundcover</i> articles published.</li> <li>Identify volunteers to collect data for grains surveillance programs.</li> <li>Contribute surveillance data to the national database.</li> <li>Each GBO to provide national leadership in an agreed work area.</li> </ul>	770,000
Industry Biosecurity Plan development and review	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>IBPs developed and released by agreed deadlines.</li> <li>PHA sought to lead projects improving biosecurity risk mitigation outcomes for Members.</li> </ul>	226,000
Biosecurity manuals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Commissioned biosecurity manuals developed and released by agreed deadlines.</li> </ul>	77,000
Contingency plans	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Milestones for three CRC projects met.</li> </ul>	122,000
Honey bee biosecurity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Honey bee biosecurity website completed and launched.</li> <li>National surveillance program maintained.</li> <li>Australian bee health standard developed.</li> <li>Deadlines of other projects met.</li> </ul>	330,000
Enhancing biosecurity engagement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Citrus biosecurity project milestones met.</li> </ul>	194,000
National Fruit Fly Strategy implementation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Action group established and supported.</li> <li>NFFS diagnostic manual reviewed.</li> </ul>	133,000
PISC Plant Biosecurity RD&E Strategy implementation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Implementation plan developed.</li> </ul>	209,000
National Working Party on Pesticide Applications support	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Working group supported to the satisfaction of cross-industry stakeholders.</li> </ul>	104,000
Category 25 pesticide label extensions project	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Data collected and Category 25 submissions provided to APVMA on behalf of grains industry.</li> </ul>	6,000

Risk Management (cont)	Key Performance Indicators	Budget (\$) 2014/2015
Pre-emptive APVMA emergency permit development for grains industry	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Packages prepared for emergency use permit applications.</li> </ul>	111,000
AUSVEG farm biosecurity program	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Program milestones met.</li> </ul>	155,000
Extending chemical usefulness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Delivered workshop to formulate pathway to registration.</li> </ul>	31,000
GRDC Category 25 pesticide label extension project 2014-2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• National database of GRDC pesticide research maintained.</li> <li>• Annual priority list for pesticide-crop combinations delivered.</li> <li>• Data generated and applications submitted to APVMA.</li> </ul>	595,000
<b>Total non-subscription funding</b>		<b>3,063,000</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>3,318,000</b>

# EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE

The ratification of the Emergency Plant Pest Response Deed (EPPRD) in 2005 significantly increased Australia's ability to efficiently respond to incursions of exotic pests deemed to be Emergency Plant Pests (EPP). By enshrining a mix of obligations and incentives, the EPPRD is accepted by government and industry partners as the best means of achieving coordinated and rapid responses to incursions, improving prospects of eradication and minimising impact.

The EPPRD lies at the heart of the industry-government partnership arrangement for plant biosecurity and is a centrepiece of PHA's business. PHA's Strategic Plan (pp. 4-5) reflects this through one of six principal strategies being to *Enhance operation and integrity of the EPPRD*.

Programs in the Emergency Preparedness and Response area contribute to the achievement of critical outcomes being sought over the life of the *Strategic Plan 2011-2016*. These include:

- Continuing to comply with EPPRD obligations.
- Continued effective management of incursions.
- Maintaining the commitment of signatories to the EPPRD.
- Maintaining high satisfaction of signatories in PHA's management of the EPPRD.
- Encouraging and facilitating Members of PHA to become EPPRD signatories.
- Continual improvement of the EPPRD.
- Establishing partnership arrangements for emergency weeds of production systems by 2015.
- Establishing an accredited EPPRD training program and accreditation of key individuals.

## Emergency Preparedness and Response programs for 2014/2015

### EPPRD management

As custodian of the EPPRD, PHA has a number of administrative responsibilities to perform on behalf of signatories. As a legally binding agreement, signatories must also meet legal obligations. These include taking steps to mitigate risks posed by EPPs and ensuring the capacity to maintain an appropriate level of response preparedness. In this regard one of the program's main aims is to assist all signatories in meeting their legal obligations under the EPPRD.

Ensuring that all processes are completed by all signatories in a sound and timely way will safeguard the ongoing relevance and credibility of the EPPRD and minimise the possibility of legal challenge to the arrangements.

The key priorities for 2014/15 have been heavily informed by the operation of the EPPRD during previous incidents, including the cost shared response to the Banana freckle Incident in the Northern Territory. The EPPRD must continue to be flexible enough to meet the changing needs of government, industry and Australia's biosecurity system.

A key focus will be to improve the EPPRD processes and performance through clarification and implementation of a variety of policy issues and other elements including:

- Incorporation of transition to management into the EPPRD.
- Continued development of supporting documents for PLANTPLAN after its major review.
- Development of Evidence Frameworks for use in Owner Reimbursement Cost (ORC) assessment processes for use when required by a Response Plan.
- Continued improvements to the categorisation process.
- Planning for the Ten Year Review of the EPPRD.

### National EPPRD training program

EPPRD Parties are required, wherever possible, to use trained personnel in an emergency response. To facilitate this, PHA delivers the National EPP Training Program to train representatives of Signatory organisations, develops awareness material and supports Members' training activities. A consistent cross-sectoral approach to response management training is also an important outcome

of the program, achieved through a close working relationship between PHA, AHA and the national Biosecurity Emergency Training Working Group<sup>1</sup>.

Simulation exercises have become increasingly important in recent years, driven by reviews of Members' needs. In 2013/2014 PHA ran Exercise Tortrix where representatives from over 20 signatories participated in a simulated response to an EPP incident. Participants indicated strong support for the exercise and for more simulation training by PHA.

The Biosecurity Online Training (BOLT) platform remains an important part of training, with new content module planned. PHA is exploring options to improve uptake.

PHA will continue to provide general biosecurity emergency preparedness training concentrated on the operation of the EPPRD, and will supplement this through the development of targeted training for topics identified from recent incidents, debriefs and the outcomes of previous simulation exercises. Industry liaison training will feature during 2014/2015 as a result of a recommendation from Exercise Tortrix. Any changes in the EPPRD and PLANPLAN will be supported by training.

### **Incursion management**

PHA has a number of specified roles under the EPPRD in the event of an EPP incident, including participation in committees and national coordination of financial management arrangements for a National Management Group (NMG) approved Response Plan. PHA will continue to provide a leadership role in assisting Parties to understand their roles and responsibilities in the event of an EPP incident, as well as ensuring compliance of activities under the EPPRD.

## **Non-subscription funded projects**

These projects are funded by Members or groups of Members to provide services above those provided by subscriptions.

### **Citrus industry emergency response simulation exercise**

PHA will convene an incursion simulation workshop for a significant pest of the citrus industry in 2014/2015.

**For completion by June 2015**

### **Karnal bunt emergency response simulation exercise**

A simulated emergency response for this pest of grains for potential Affected Parties will be planned and designed. The exercise will be conducted in early 2015/2016.

**For completion by June 2015**

---

<sup>1</sup> Further information available from [www.daff.gov.au/animal-plant-health/pihc/bepwg/documents/betwg](http://www.daff.gov.au/animal-plant-health/pihc/bepwg/documents/betwg)

## Preparedness and Response budget and KPIs for 2014/2015

Emergency Preparedness and Response	Key Performance Indicators	Budget (\$) 2014/2015
EPPRD management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Full PHA compliance in relation to EPPRD responsibilities demonstrated in quarterly reports to the Board.</li> <li>• PLANTPLAN updated as required and supporting documents developed, maintained and reported.</li> <li>• Categorisation trial transitioned to full implementation by 1 Jan 2015, supported by all Parties.</li> <li>• Monitoring framework for compliance of all EPPRD activities implemented in collaboration with all Parties.</li> <li>• Planning for the next review of the EPPRD completed and supported by Parties by May 2015.</li> <li>• ORC Evidence Framework development commenced for Crops covered by the EPPRD and completed Evidence Frameworks reviewed as required.</li> <li>• EPPRD policy clarified to the satisfaction of Parties and implemented/extended as appropriate including:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Owner Reimbursement Costs</li> <li>○ Transition to Management</li> <li>○ industry participation in response operations, including ILO/ILC functions</li> <li>○ response and contingency plan development.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	477,000
National EPP Training Program	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Deliver emergency preparedness and response training tailored to Members' needs.</li> <li>• Two new Biosecurity Online Training (BOLT) modules available to Members.</li> <li>• Review the emergency preparedness and response training needs of Members and identify opportunities for enhancement.</li> <li>• The delivery of accredited training supported by:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ the provision of an EPPRD role-specific registered training organisation (RTO) arrangement</li> <li>○ endorsed skill sets for EPPRD roles</li> <li>○ relevant biosecurity emergency response qualifications available.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	182,000
Incursion management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Participate in EPP incidents according to the specified terms and timeframes of the EPPRD.</li> <li>• Conduct appropriately scaled reviews of EPP incidents to ensure continued refinement of EPPRD processes and performance.</li> </ul>	153,000
<b>Total subscription funding</b>		<b>812,000</b>
Non subscription funded projects:		
Citrus industry emergency response simulation exercise	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Simulation exercise convened successfully.</li> </ul>	18,000
Karnal bunt emergency response simulation exercise	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Simulation exercise planned. To be conducted in 2015/16.</li> </ul>	48,000
<b>Total non-subscription funding</b>		<b>66,000</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>878,000</b>

## PARTNERSHIPS

Fostering government-industry partnerships in biosecurity is at the heart of why PHA exists and why the company continues to be valued by Members. Members need a mechanism by which they can contribute to maintaining the integrity, responsiveness and capability of the national plant biosecurity system. They also need to be able to reach shared understandings. PHA's independence and broad membership structure create the conditions for governments and industries to constructively engage. The company's track record in brokering solutions to difficult problems further instils confidence in partners.

Programs in the Partnerships area contribute to the achievement of critical outcomes being sought over the life of the 2011-2016 Strategic Plan. These include:

- Maintaining strong working relationships with Members.
- Ensuring continued commitment of Members to plant biosecurity.
- Producing company strategic and operational plans that reflect collective Member needs and priorities.
- Producing effective reports on company performance.
- Reporting on the status of the biosecurity system.
- Implementing the National Plant Biosecurity Strategy.
- Supporting information technology to support Members.
- Boosting recognition of the economic importance of the plant sector and the impact of biosecurity pest threats on food security.
- Improving market recognition of the biosecurity measures adopted by plant producers.
- Broadening stakeholder engagement along the value chain and biosecurity continuum.
- Improving cross-sectoral linkages particularly partnership arrangements for emergency weeds of production systems.

### Partnerships programs for 2014/2015

#### Member liaison

PHA places a priority on involving Members in the setting, implementation and uptake of program objectives and outputs. This is achieved by emphasising transparency and accountability in business activity, running forums for Members and encouraging participation, facilitating Member involvement in project specific steering and management groups, through PHA participation at Member meetings and events, and contributions to various national initiatives.

#### National committees

PHA is actively involved in recognised government and industry committees, where they fit with PHA's strategies, are appropriately funded, and will deliver benefits to the majority of Members. Staff member involvement in national committees allows the company to ensure that national plant biosecurity policy issues are raised and addressed.

PHA contributes technical expertise to some committees, and the company's independent views and strategic insight is valued in others. PHA involvement ensures that industry considerations and requirements are taken into account in government committee processes, and that government processes are considered in industry planning. It also assists in the transfer of information between committees providing cohesion nationally.

#### Corporate communication

Communication of the purpose and outcomes of PHA activity is important for a variety of reasons. Corporate communication assists in meeting corporate accountability. It facilitates the uptake of PHA project outcomes, and encourages closer cooperation and coordination between national plant biosecurity stakeholders.

Corporate communication includes performance reporting including annual reports, efforts to promote the company, maintenance of the PHA website and publication of the e-newsletter *Tendrils*. It also incorporates strategy development, issues management and media liaison. Every two years corporate communication initiatives are evaluated by a survey of Members and stakeholders.

### **National strategies and systems support**

National online information systems are a valuable tool to support the plant biosecurity system, providing relevant information in a user-friendly format. PHA manages a number of online information systems to support surveillance, market access and emergency response activities in Australia, including the Australian Plant Pest Database and the National Plant Surveillance Reporting Tool.

Recognising the wide range of tools and expertise currently available through other organisations in this space, PHA also supports these organisations to develop information systems that are relevant to the plant biosecurity system. PHA's unique position in the plant biosecurity sector also allows us to encourage collaboration between developing organisations and uptake of the systems by a broad range of users.

### **Strategic planning, reporting and evaluation**

The company requires sound and integrated planning and reporting systems to provide Members and the Board with the confidence that PHA is pursuing appropriate goals and is meeting these goals effectively and efficiently with minimised risk.

### **Reporting on the status of Australia's plant biosecurity system**

PHA has produced an annual edition of the *National Plant Biosecurity Status Report* (NPBSR) since 2009 to capture a snapshot of the plant biosecurity system, identifying the key components and how they work together to deliver world leading outcomes. This report is compiled through valued contributions, input and advice from Australia's key plant biosecurity stakeholders and covers plant biosecurity infrastructure, policy, operational activities, research and significant threats.

The generation of a new edition of the NPBSR each year provides a mechanism to track developments and major changes to the plant biosecurity system, highlight the achievements of plant biosecurity stakeholders and maintain a grasp on the plant biosecurity system as a whole in the background of the constantly changing environment in which it is based. Monitoring and reporting on the performance of the system plays a valuable role in highlighting the strength of the system to Members and trading partners.

In 2014/2015 PHA will continue to investigate improved options for reporting.

### **National Plant Biosecurity Strategy implementation**

The National Plant Biosecurity Strategy (NPBS) facilitated by PHA, received the endorsement of all Members. It sets the strategic direction for the plant biosecurity system to 2020. It incorporates high level strategies for the key functional areas of emergency response, diagnostics, surveillance and communications, which were developed from input by the vast majority of plant biosecurity stakeholders in Australia.

PHA continues to implement the recommendations of the strategy to enhance the national plant biosecurity system.

## Non-subscription funded projects

These projects are funded by Members or groups of Members to provide services above those provided by subscriptions.

### **National Plant Biosecurity Strategy implementation**

As recommended in the National Plant Biosecurity Strategy, PHA continues to enhance Australia's plant pest surveillance and diagnostic systems, working with the Subcommittee on Plant Health Diagnostic Standards and the Subcommittee for National Plant Health Surveillance.

**Contract ends June 2015**

### **Biosecurity Information Portal project**

In 2014/2015 PHA is to continue to develop and implement the Plant Biosecurity Information Portal, [biosecurityportal.org.au](http://biosecurityportal.org.au), which will facilitate integration of biosecurity activities, scientific capabilities and analysis across the biosecurity continuum.

The project is managed by PHA and guided by a Portal Management Committee comprised of six representatives from PHA and the Australian Government Department of Agriculture. As recommended by the National Plant Biosecurity Strategy (NPBS) the portal will allow plant health professionals across government, industry and the community to readily access information on surveillance, diagnostics, training, technical information, tools, national policies and strategies, and legislation.

**Contract currently being negotiated**

### **Surveillance virtual coordination centre**

With a National Landcare Program Innovation grant, PHA is embarking on a project to improve surveillance for pests and weeds of agriculture and the environment across Australia by developing a virtual coordination centre.

The new system will allow a broader range of people and organisations to populate surveillance databases including farmers, consultants, governments, researchers and community groups. The standardised data will support the early detection of new pests, report evidence of area freedom from pests, expedite pest incursion responses and support the effective management of established pests.

**Contract ends March 2016**

## Partnerships budget and KPIs for 2014/2015

Partnerships	Key Performance Indicators	Budget (\$) 2014/2015
Member liaison	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Two General Meetings held in 2014/2015 with all legal requirements for these meetings met.</li> <li>At least two Plant Industry Forum meetings held in 2014/2015.</li> <li>At least one consultative meeting for all Members held between the Annual General Meeting and General Meeting.</li> <li>Person-to-person consultation with every Member at least once in 2014/2015, including opportunities to provide input to operational priorities for 2014/2015.</li> </ul>	273,000
National committees	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Staff members actively sought out by committees for leadership and co-ordination roles.</li> <li>Active PHA participation at committee meetings.</li> <li>PHA presentation of priority Member issues to national committees and critical, non-confidential outcomes shared with Members.</li> </ul>	148,000
Corporate communication	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>E-newsletter <i>Tendrils</i> produced and distributed according to schedule.</li> <li>Corporate website and others for Members well maintained with good usage by stakeholders.</li> <li>Excellent quality communications support provided to management, the Board and Members.</li> <li>Obtain media coverage for every major PHA news item.</li> <li>Continued commitment to branding and consistent style in all publications.</li> </ul>	321,000
National strategies and information systems support	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Information systems supported sufficiently to minimise technical errors and maximise availability for users.</li> </ul>	27,000
Strategic planning, reporting and evaluation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Members consulted in determining operational priorities for 2014/2015.</li> <li>2014/2015 AOP presented to Members and approved by the Board in May 2014.</li> <li>PHA's Strategic Plan reviewed this year and approved by the Board.</li> <li><i>Annual Report 2014</i> presented to Members and end of year financial statements approved by Members at the 14th Annual General Meeting.</li> <li>Effective mid-year reporting against agreed key performance indicators with report approved by the Board and reported to Members.</li> <li>Member satisfaction with PHA's processes for accountability (measured every two years, or as agreed with Board, through PHA's Member Survey and through other Member consultation processes.)</li> </ul>	95,000
Reporting on the status of Australia's plant biosecurity system	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Deliver information on Australia's plant biosecurity system in a format that meets the needs of stakeholders and is endorsed by PHA Members.</li> </ul>	49,000
National Plant Biosecurity Strategy implementation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Strategy reviewed and implementation advanced.</li> </ul>	10,000

Partnerships (cont)	Key Performance Indicators	Budget (\$) 2014/2015
Business opportunities and emerging issues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• PHA sought out to lead projects requiring the engagement of Members.</li> <li>• Timely and high quality responses prepared, to significant reviews with the potential to affect Australia's plant biosecurity system, in consultation with Members.</li> <li>• Continue implementation of the MoU between PHA and AHA that agrees to strengthen the partnership between the two companies.</li> <li>• Investigate options for PHA/AHA co-location.</li> </ul>	30,000
<b>Total subscription funding</b>		<b>953,000</b>
Non subscription funded projects:		
NPBS implementation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• National surveillance and diagnostic systems enhanced.</li> </ul>	3,000
Biosecurity Information Portal project	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Development and implementation projects delivered according to agreed milestones.</li> </ul>	111,000
Surveillance virtual coordination centre	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Stakeholders consulted about scope of project.</li> <li>• Existing surveillance mechanisms reviewed.</li> <li>• National data standards evaluated.</li> </ul>	114,000
<b>Total non-subscription funding</b>		<b>228,000</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>1,181,000</b>

## COMPANY MANAGEMENT

Sound company management entails running the organisation with probity and in the interests of Members. It encompasses the systems of governance, financial control and risk management, plus the business processes and people that combine to enable PHA to fulfil its commitments to Members. Transparent operating procedures, efficient business systems and maintaining an expert and professional staff are major components in successful company management.

Key objectives for 2014/2015 include:

- Maintaining high standards of corporate governance including best practice in budgeting, financial management and financial reporting.
- Ensuring company risks are regularly reviewed, identified and managed.
- Enhancing relationships with Members and stakeholders and maintaining Member support for the strategic and operational objectives of PHA through the activities of the Board.
- Supporting Board member selection and Board decision making through timely, relevant and accurate advice from Management.
- Achieving Member support for annual subscriptions and ensuring appropriate and accurate accounting for actual and forecast subscriptions.
- Having administrative resources, policies and procedures in place to provide the support required for the effective ongoing functioning of the company.
- Providing a safe, healthy, productive and rewarding workplace for PHA personnel.
- Maintaining the company's reputation as an organisation committed to delivering high quality, professional and prompt services to Members.

### Company Management programs for 2014/2015

#### Board Program

PHA has a skills-based Board comprised of nine directors, eight of whom are selected by a formal selection process. The other director is the company Executive Director and CEO. The Board has two formal subcommittees, the Finance & Audit Committee (F&AC) and the Remuneration Committee, with other sub-committees established from time-to-time to undertake specific tasks.

The Board Program budget area covers expenses associated with directors complying with company duties. This includes travel and accommodation, the Board selection process, operating Board committees and management and administration costs of arranging, supporting and attending meetings of the Board and its committees.

#### Company management and administration

The Company Management and Administration budget area encompasses activities devoted to managing and maintaining PHA's capabilities to meet the business objectives in the AOP that are not associated directly with the management of specific separately budgeted programs. This includes financial management and administration, audit fees, company performance reporting, human resource management (including the development of policies and procedures) staff development and training, information services and business development, as well as aspects of servicing and supporting the PHA Board.

Other activities include consultancies on issues specific to corporate management, travel costs of staff representing PHA which are not attributable to specific programs, regulatory compliance, and legal and other professional advice on matters of corporate management.

## Company Management budget and KPIs for 2014/2015

Company management	Key Performance Indicators	Budget (\$) 2014/2015
Board program	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Performance of PHA meets Members' requirements (as measured every three years, or as agreed with Board, by the PHA Member Survey and through other Member consultation processes).</li> <li>• Legal and Constitutional compliance requirements met.</li> <li>• Board satisfaction with PHA secretariat support and follow up of Board meetings, Finance and Audit Committee meetings and other meetings attended by directors.</li> <li>• Attendance of the PHA Board at over 80% of requested Member and stakeholder meetings.</li> <li>• Commence Board selection round according to schedule.</li> </ul>	226,000
Company management and administration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All legal and Constitutional obligations met.</li> <li>• Company Risk Management Report reviewed quarterly and considered as a standing item for PHA Board and F&amp;AC Meetings.</li> <li>• Company Human Resources Plan reviewed and updated annually and presented to the Board.</li> <li>• Annual financial statements externally audited and declared accurate and compliant.</li> <li>• Internal audit program schedule met and findings addressed.</li> <li>• PHA's 2015/2016 budget presented to Members and subscriptions agreed in May 2015.</li> </ul>	372,000
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>598,000</b>

## GLOSSARY

<b>ABARES</b>	Australian Bureau of Agricultural and Resource Economics and Sciences
<b>AHA</b>	Animal Health Australia
<b>AHBIC</b>	Australian Honey Bee Industry Council
<b>AOP</b>	Annual Operating Plan
<b>APVMA</b>	Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority
<b>BOLT</b>	Biosecurity Online Training
<b>CRDC</b>	Cotton Research and Development Corporation
<b>EPPRD</b>	Emergency Plant Pest Response Deed
<b>F&amp;AC</b>	Finance and Audit Committee
<b>GBO</b>	Grains Biosecurity Officer
<b>GRDC</b>	Grains Research and Development Corporation
<b>HAL</b>	Horticulture Australia Limited
<b>GWRDC</b>	Grape and Wine Research and Development Corporation
<b>IBP</b>	Industry Biosecurity Plan
<b>IGAB</b>	Inter-Governmental Agreement on Biosecurity
<b>LVP</b>	Local Value of Production
<b>NFFS</b>	National Fruit Fly Strategy
<b>NMG</b>	National Management Group
<b>NPBS</b>	National Plant Biosecurity Strategy
<b>NPBSR</b>	National Plant Biosecurity Status Report
<b>NWPPA</b>	National Working Party on Pesticide Application
<b>ORC</b>	Owner Reimbursement Cost
<b>PBCRC</b>	Plant Biosecurity Cooperative Research Centre
<b>PLANTPLAN</b>	Australian Emergency Plant Pest Response Plan
<b>RDC</b>	Research and Development Corporation
<b>RD&amp;E</b>	Research, Development and Extension
<b>SRDC</b>	Sugar Research and Development Corporation

# Plant Health Australia

Improving national biosecurity outcomes through partnerships



## The company

Plant Health Australia (PHA) was established in 2000 as a not-for-profit public company limited by guarantee. The Company has a national office located in Canberra and is run by a team of specialist staff and a skills-based Board.

## Our role

PHA is the national coordinator of the government-industry partnership for plant biosecurity in Australia. PHA facilitates this partnership and drives action to improve policy, practice and performance of Australia's plant biosecurity system and to build capability to respond to plant pest emergencies.

## Our purpose

The purpose of PHA is for government and industry to have a strong biosecurity partnership that minimises pest impacts on Australia, enhances market access and contributes to industry and community sustainability.

## Our vision

By 2016, PHA will be the independent national coordinator of the government-industry partnership for plant biosecurity in Australia that creates strong commitment and confidence in the structure of the shared biosecurity system.

## Corporate values

- Leadership and vision.
- Impartiality.
- Engaging, collaborative and relationship building.
- Professional and intellectually rigorous.
- Connected and informed.
- Respectful and trustworthy.
- Innovative, action and solutions-focused.

## Notes



Improving national biosecurity  
outcomes through partnerships

© Plant Health Australia 2014

**Contact us:**

Plant Health Australia  
Level 1, 1 Phipps Close  
Deakin ACT 2600

Phone 02 6215 7700

Fax 02 6260 4321

Email [admin@phau.com.au](mailto:admin@phau.com.au)

[www.planthealthaustralia.com.au](http://www.planthealthaustralia.com.au)

