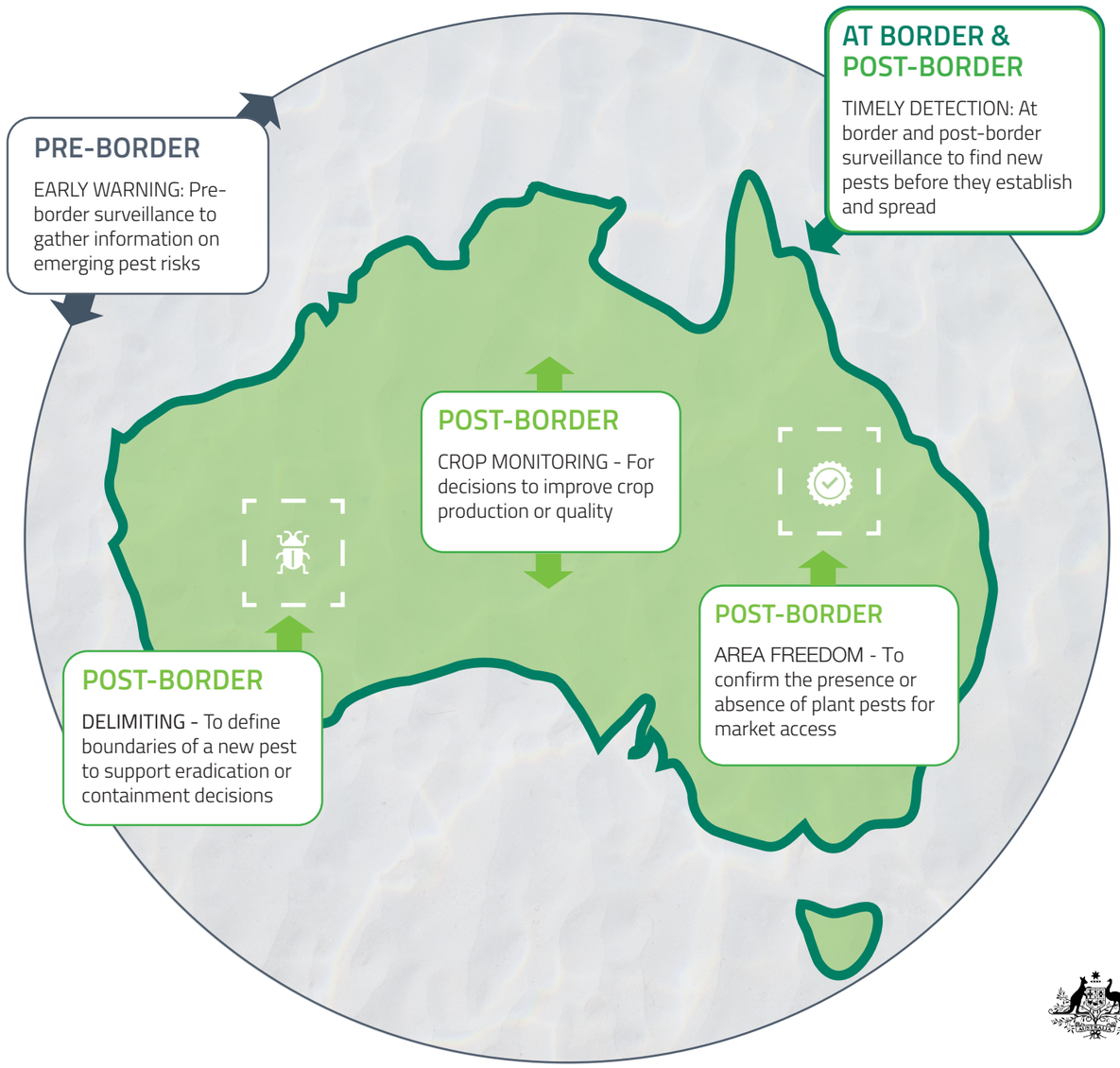
A nationally integrated surveillance system for plant pests (NISSPP)

Plant pest surveillance provides information on the presence or absence of plant pests (any invertebrate or pathogen harmful to plants, plant products or bees). An improved system for plant pest surveillance should be nationally integrated across government and the plant production supply chain and deliver activities that are fit for purpose and engender confidence and trust through data collection and clearly defined roles and responsibilities. Achieving these aims will require long-term commitment, and mechanisms to ensure that both delivery and resourcing can be sustained. The aim of the NISSPP project is to bring industry and government together to identify and propose implementation mechanisms to improve the delivery and resourcing of surveillance.

CHALLENGES

- large number of plant pests and hosts
- rapidly emerging pest risks and pathways
- resourcing pressure on current systems

PURPOSES OF SURVEILLANCE



PROJECT OUTLINE

Undertake consultation on principles and requirements of a nationally integrated surveillance system for plant pests

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Develop concept models for the delivery and resourcing of plant pest surveillance

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Consultation on proposed models for a NISSPP and endorsement of concept model

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Implementation plan developed for proposed models

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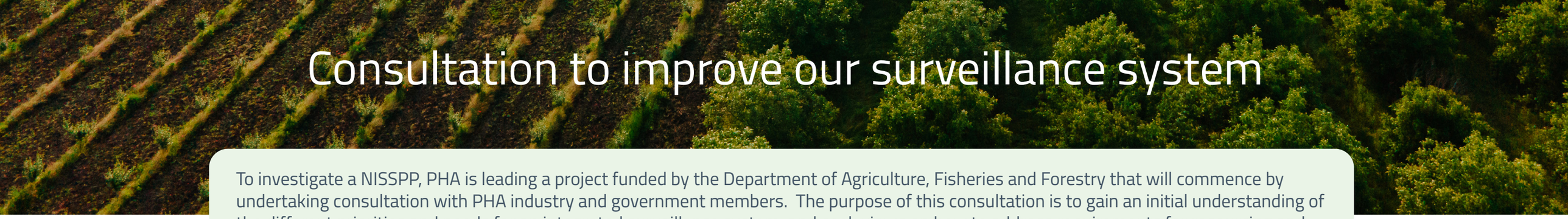

Consultation to improve our surveillance system

To investigate a NISSPP, PHA is leading a project funded by the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry that will commence by undertaking consultation with PHA industry and government members. The purpose of this consultation is to gain an initial understanding of the different priorities and needs for an integrated surveillance system, and seek views on how to address requirements for resourcing and delivery of the surveillance system, including next steps in identifying future stakeholders in a NISSPP.

THE NEED FOR REFORM - SOME OF THE CHALLENGES

IDENTIFYING BENEFICIARIES OF SURVEILLANCE

- Detection and response to new pests can disrupt supply chains, but the value of surveillance has been difficult to describe. Plant industries and governments currently bear the costs of surveillance and response, providing few incentives for others to support biosecurity

PRIORITISATION OF SURVEILLANCE ACTIVITIES

- There are many pest targets, and techniques for surveillance and diagnostics are not always well understood
- There are many target hosts, crops and areas for surveillance
- Pest pathways around the world and into Australia are continually changing

COLLABORATIVE AND SHARED DECISION MAKING

- Governance models for shared decision making and contributions from different partners are needed
- Timeliness, quality and sharing data from different sources needs improvement

DIAGNOSTICS TO SUPPORT SURVEILLANCE

- Diagnostics can be a bottleneck for improving surveillance systems

STABLE FUNDING

- Development of a long-term funding model is complex and few existing models provide stable funding

FUTURE SURVEILLANCE SYSTEM

What do you see as the main challenges facing plant health surveillance, either broadly, or for your jurisdiction / industry?

What is your overall impression of the effectiveness of pest surveillance in your jurisdiction / industry?

Is the value of surveillance well understood, particularly who is affected when surveillance is sub-optimal?

How do you think plant biosecurity surveillance should be resourced, delivered, and managed?

If you had a pot of gold, how would you fix the system?

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