Global collaboration: The International Plant Sentinel Network

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For context

- **Plant Health Australia (PHA)**
  - The national coordinator of the government–industry partnership for plant biosecurity in Australia.
  - Not-for-profit, member-based company
  - Working in partnership with industry, governments, researchers and others to facilitate and manage improvements in biosecurity policy and practice across Australia’s plant industries

- **Botanic Gardens Conservation International (BGCI)**
  - Worldwide botanic garden networking organisation
  - Established in 1987
  - Headquartered at Royal Botanic Gardens Kew, UK
  - Offices in USA, Kenya, Singapore and China
The International Plant Sentinel Network

• A global network of botanic gardens, arboreta, plant health institutes and National Plant Protection Organisations (NPPOs) coordinated by BGCI.

• Provides an early warning system for new and emerging insect pest and pathogen threats

• Plants growing outside their native range can be monitored for damage by pests and pathogens which are native or naturalised to the ‘host’ country

• Information collated on the risk these organisms could pose if introduced into the plant’s native range
Australia’s contribution to the IPSN

1. Quercus robur/petraea – English/Irish Oak
2. Pinus sylvestris – Scots Pine
3. Rosa spp. - Roses
4. Picea sitchensis – Sitka spruce
5. Fagus sylvatica - European beech
The Biosecurity, Health, Trade Nexus

• With international trade constantly increasing there is increasing risk of moving insect pests and pathogens quickly around the globe on host plants and as hitchhikers.

• Through engagement with botanic gardens in Australia and globally there is an opportunity to get a ‘heads-up’ on which pests might cause significant issues to various plant species.

• Thinking ahead, by incorporating botanic gardens into projects there is an opportunity for mutual development of skills and knowledge on insect pests and pathogens for the benefit of Australia and the partner country.
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