

TASK FORCE REPORT



THE FALL
ARMYWORM
—
IN
SOUTHEAST
ASIA

EMPOWERING SMALLHOLDER
FARMERS IN SOUTHEAST ASIA

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Fall Armyworm (FAW) poses a devastating threat to regional smallholder farmers growing maize and other downstream players. In the face of this new challenge, smallholder farmers face the highest risk due to unpredictable markets, reduced yields and potential loss of livelihoods. Governments may also limit maize exports, forcing local prices up. The FAW issue thus impacts a range of actors and requires action at every level in order to develop effective management responses. As such, a global governance approach is necessary in addressing this issue.

This report supports guidance given by the FAO on global responses to the FAW crisis, specifically the FAO Management Model. We have identified three key stakeholders, namely Corteva Agriscience, CABI, Grow Asia, and examine their existing efforts to manage the FAW through the lens of the FAO Management Model. We have selected these three stakeholders as we believe they are representative of the spectrum of actors crucial to managing the FAW issue. This report (i) identifies each stakeholder's existing initiatives; (ii) focuses on how key actions relate to the FAO Management Model; (iii) identifies potential synergies amongst stakeholders; and (iv) analyses the proposed synergies by providing considerations including their feasibility, benefits and interests that may be shared by the stakeholders involved.

Most crucially, we acknowledge that smallholder farmers must be at the heart of these solutions. This Task Force focuses our analysis on the urgent need to communicate at scale to smallholders good agricultural practices for monitoring, managing and controlling the FAW. This enables them to expand their knowledge and empowers them to become experts.