



Greater Caribbean Safeguarding Initiative

Protect • Harmonize • Strengthen

Greater Caribbean Safeguarding Initiative (GCSI)

The GCSI seeks to strengthen the plant health safeguarding system in the Greater Caribbean Region (GCR) by establishing partnerships with GCR countries and territories to prevent, detect, and control existing and emerging plant pest threats.

The GCSI is a collaborative effort between the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) and its GCR partners.

The GCSI's long-term goal is to **protect** participating countries and territories from the introduction and establishment of high-risk plant pests through the use of a perimeter approach. The GCSI seeks to **harmonize** and **strengthen** the ongoing regional development of offshore pest detection, control and exclusion activities, and regulatory frameworks for the benefit of all countries and territories in the GCR.

The scope of the GCSI includes the Caribbean Islands, Central America (Belize, Guatemala, Honduras, El Salvador, Nicaragua, and Costa Rica), French Guiana, Guyana, Panama, Suriname, Venezuela, and parts of the United States including Florida, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands.

Strategic Goals

The GCSI's strategic goals are designed to support a regional perimeter safeguarding approach and prevent the introduction and spread of high-risk plant pests and invasive species into the GCR. The four strategic goals of the GCSI are to:

- Build a coordinated GCSI framework and partnership network,
- Strengthen regional and national pest exclusion activities within the GCR,
- Enhance regional pest detection activities, and
- Strengthen pest mitigation and suppression activities in the region.



Learn More

For more information about the GCSI, go to www.aphis.usda.gov/international_safeguarding/plants/gcsi/index.shtml.

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