



International Research Center for Climate Change Resilient Agriculture  
(IRCCCA)

Centre International de Recherche pour une Agriculture Résiliente aux  
Changements Climatiques (CIRACC)

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## **Modeling under Climate Change Scenarios Hands-on Training, October 16-20, Abomey-Calavi, IITA-Benin, Republic of Benin**

### **About the Organizer**

The training is convened by the newly established International Research Center for Climate Change Resilient Agriculture (CIRACC/IRCCCA). CIRACC/IRCCCA is hosted at the International Institute of Tropical Agriculture (IITA-Benin). The Center is entirely dedicated for Research and Training. It aims at filling the gap observed in the efforts deployed at national, regional and international levels to implement the adaptation and mitigation measures to climate change.

### **About the Training**

The training will be in English and will cover practical aspects of using suitable insect modeling tools such as ILCYM, MaxEnt and CLIMEX. For example, ILCYM (Insect Life Cycle Modeling) software facilitates the development of pest insect phenology models and provides analytical tools for studying pest population ecology. ILCYM software consists of two main modules. One, the "model builder", facilitates the development of insect phenology models based on experimental temperature data of a specific pest. This module also provides tools to analyze an insect life-table and to validate developed models. The second module implements the phenology model in a GIS environment and allows for spatial - global or regional simulation of pest activities ("pest risk mapping"). The objective of ILCYM software is to provide an open-source computer aided tool for researchers and students using advanced modeling techniques.

The goal of the training is to present an overview of potential insect modeling tools available and offer a data analysis opportunity to students and scientists working on climate-driven biorisks and Invasive Alien Species (IAS) amongst which tephritid fruit flies and the devastating Fall Armyworm *Spodoptera frugiperda*. This 5-day event will have hands-on practical sessions where users can use sample files or use their own datasets and, discuss their results with the trainers and fellow attendees.

### **Computer and Internet access**

- Participants are urged to bring their own laptop.
- Free Wi-Fi internet access will be provided in training room.

### **Registration**

- Application deadline: September 15, 2017

- Acceptance notification: Only successful candidates will be notified on September 18, 2017
- Number of training participants: 15 participants
- Acceptance confirmation: September 20, 2017. If you have been accepted to attend, you must reply to your acceptance notification with a short e-mail to [G.Tepa-Yotto@cgiar.org](mailto:G.Tepa-Yotto@cgiar.org) by September 20, 2017. If you do not reply we will assume that you are unable to attend and will award your seat to another applicant.
- Who should apply: The ideal candidate should have a need to become an expert user of one or more insect modeling tools, and presumably has a modeling need for his/her research.
- How to apply: send a two-page CV as e-mail attachment to [G.Tepa-Yotto@cgiar.org](mailto:G.Tepa-Yotto@cgiar.org) by September 15, 2017.
- Evaluation of applications: successful applicants will be those with demonstrated background on insect science and basically those working on climate-driven biorisks or IAS.
- Priority will be given to students and scientists from Francophone West and Central African countries with oral and written communication skills in English, but other students and scientists may also apply.
- Costs and fees: Successful candidates are expected to cover travel, breakfasts, dinners and accommodation costs. Access to training sessions is free. Lunch and coffee breaks will be offered. Transportation between hotel and training venue will be also provided.

### **Sponsorship**

CIRACC/IRCCCA has limited funds to enable the participation of three Beninese and two international students. Awards will be given to best applications. Submitting an application does not guarantee a fellowship. Only selected candidates will be informed on September 21, 2017.

### **Visa arrangement**

It is advisable for participants to procure Benin conference visa in their country prior to travelling. **Entry visa can be arranged for those arriving from Countries where there is no Benin Republic mission** (In this regard concerned selected participant(s) can send scanned copies of their passport data pages together with their flight details to Mr. Andre Hessouh at [A.Hessouh@cgiar.org](mailto:A.Hessouh@cgiar.org) (copy [G.Tepa-Yotto@cgiar.org](mailto:G.Tepa-Yotto@cgiar.org)) who will arrange for them to be given entry visa upon arrival in Cotonou, Benin, for a fee of US\$100). This amount is NOT reimbursable.

### **Airport reception**

Participants will be met on arrival at the airport by the hotel shuttle bus with a sign **CIRACC/IRCCCA MODELING**, and also same arrangement upon departure.

**Accommodation**

Accommodation rates ranging from USD 50-120 have been negotiated for participants. Selected participants should send a short e-mail the earliest to [G.Tepa-Yotto@cgiar.org](mailto:G.Tepa-Yotto@cgiar.org) for hotel booking with an indication of the preferred rate.

**Banking and currency exchange**

The currency in Benin is Franc CFA (XOF). Participants are advised to convert their respective currencies into Euros or US dollars to facilitate exchange.

**For any other information and in case of emergency**

Please direct inquiries to Ghislain Tepa-Yotto; E-mail: [G.Tepa-Yotto@cgiar.org](mailto:G.Tepa-Yotto@cgiar.org); Telephone and WhatsApp: +229 95 78 69 88.

**Training agenda**

To be communicated in due course.....