



CORESTA Strategy, Cooperation, Achievements and Perspectives

51st TOBACCO WORKERS' CONFERENCE

Knoxville, Tennessee USA

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Presented by Stéphane Colard
Secretary General of CORESTA



Mission

- **CORESTA is a non-profit association whose purpose is to promote and facilitate international cooperation and best practices in scientific research relative to tobacco and its derived products.**
- **Founded in 1956 and governed by French law**
- **171 organisations from 43 countries**



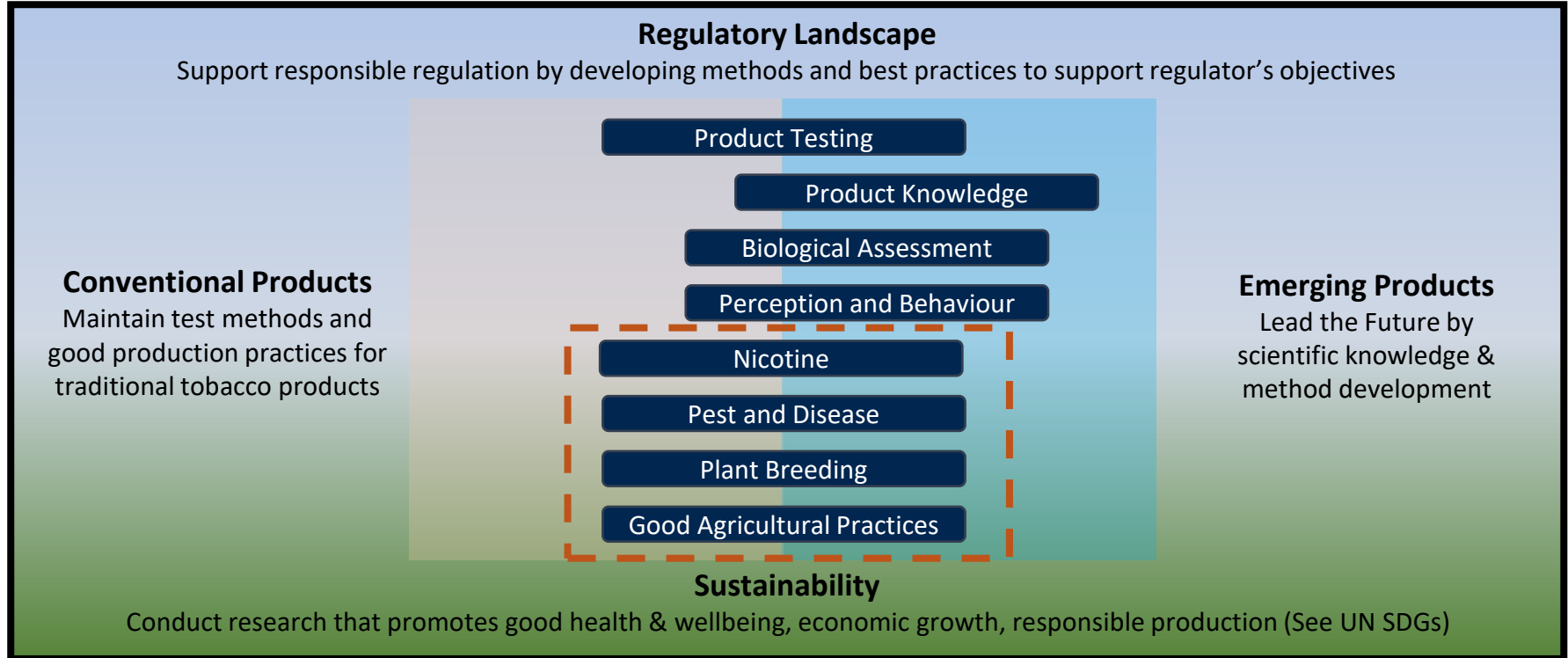
Content

- **Context and Consequences**
- **Strategy and Plans**
- **Governance and Cooperation**
- **Achievements and Perspectives**
- **Conclusion**

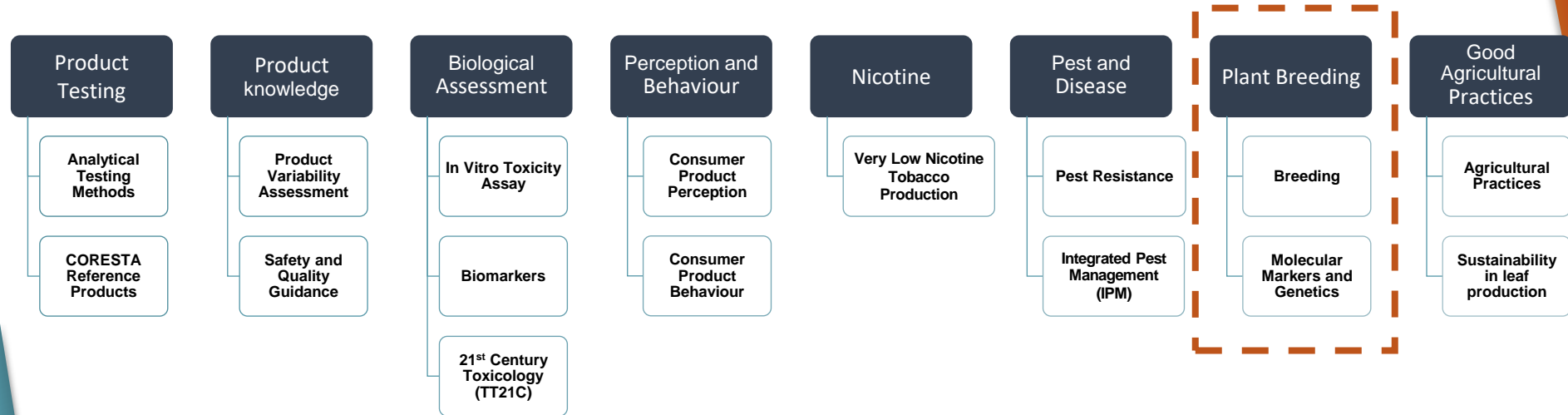
- **COVID-19 pandemic**
 - Online events and meetings
- **Need to consolidate and energize our process of cooperation in a world increasingly made of “virtual” interactions**
 - Top-down / bottom-up approach no longer practical
 - Move from a vertical to a circular dynamic
- **A changing and complex environment**
 - Members from 171 organisations and 43 countries
 - New regulations
 - New products
 - New priorities

4 Strategic Areas

8 Strategic Subjects



8 Strategic Subjects 16 Workstreams





5-year plans and 2-year deliverables

2023

5-year plans

2028

Deliverables by 2025

Product testing

- Keep and develop standardized methods for conventional and emerging products
- Understand laboratory testing variability (r & R)
- Develop CORESTA reference products (e.g., HTP, OND)
- Quality and safety guidance for emerging products

- Maintenance of existing CRMs for conventional and emerging products
- New CRMs for conventional and emerging products
- CORESTA reference products for cigarette and oral nicotine products
- Quality and safety guidance for Nicotine Pouches

Product knowledge

- Establish toxicological assessment models
- Finalize tobacco data standards for clinical studies and expand to other disciplines
- Develop guidelines and best practices for utilizing fit-for-purpose COPD biomarkers for assessing PRRPs
- Develop robust understanding of mechanistic pathways and identify clinically relevant biomarkers for Cardiovascular Disease

- *in vitro* proficiency studies using current toxicological *in vitro* methods.
- 21st century toxicology programme in place
- Best practices & guidelines on data standards for sections on Product Description; Nonclinical; Individual & Population Health
- Specific biomarkers of exposure fit-for-purpose as compliance measures in long-term ambulatory
- Robust understanding of mechanistic pathways and clinical identification of relevant biomarkers for COPD and CVDs

Biological Assessment

Perception & Behaviour

- Populate Consumer Reported Outcome Measures knowledge repository
- Investigate product use behaviour for emerging products
- Provide guidance to develop fit for purpose population modeling

- Use of validated methodologies to generate human studies data from the CROM outputs
- Tools for evaluation of consumer exposure, perception and behaviour
- New TF on population modelling

Nicotine

Pest & Disease

Plant Breeding

- Conduct field trials and collaborative studies related to low nicotine, crop protection agent (CPA) residues, and pest/disease management.
- Monitor plant breeding, growing and labour practices
- Develop raw material production tools and guidelines for emerging products

- Field trials and collaborative studies related to low nicotine, crop protection agent (CPA) residues, and pest/disease management.
- Agro/phyto initiatives on supply chain, and tobacco germplasm collection
- Sustainable solution for public germplasm collection

Good Agricultural Practices

- Develop guidelines and best practices for new and existing CPAs
- Develop a roadmap to support UN SDG and regulatory initiatives across the world
- Provide practical guidance to better understand and avoid green tobacco sickness

- Agro/phyto initiatives to protect human rights
- Roadmap of the TF on green tobacco sickness
- Comprehensive review of the Guide No. 17

- Identify key areas, objectives, and infrastructure where CORESTA can advance the science related to tobacco harm reduction



5-year plans and 2-year deliverables Focus on leaf tobacco production

2023

5-year plans

2028

Deliverables by 2025

Product testing

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- Maintenance of existing CRMs for conventional and emerging products
- New CRMs for conventional and emerging products

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Good Agricultural Practices

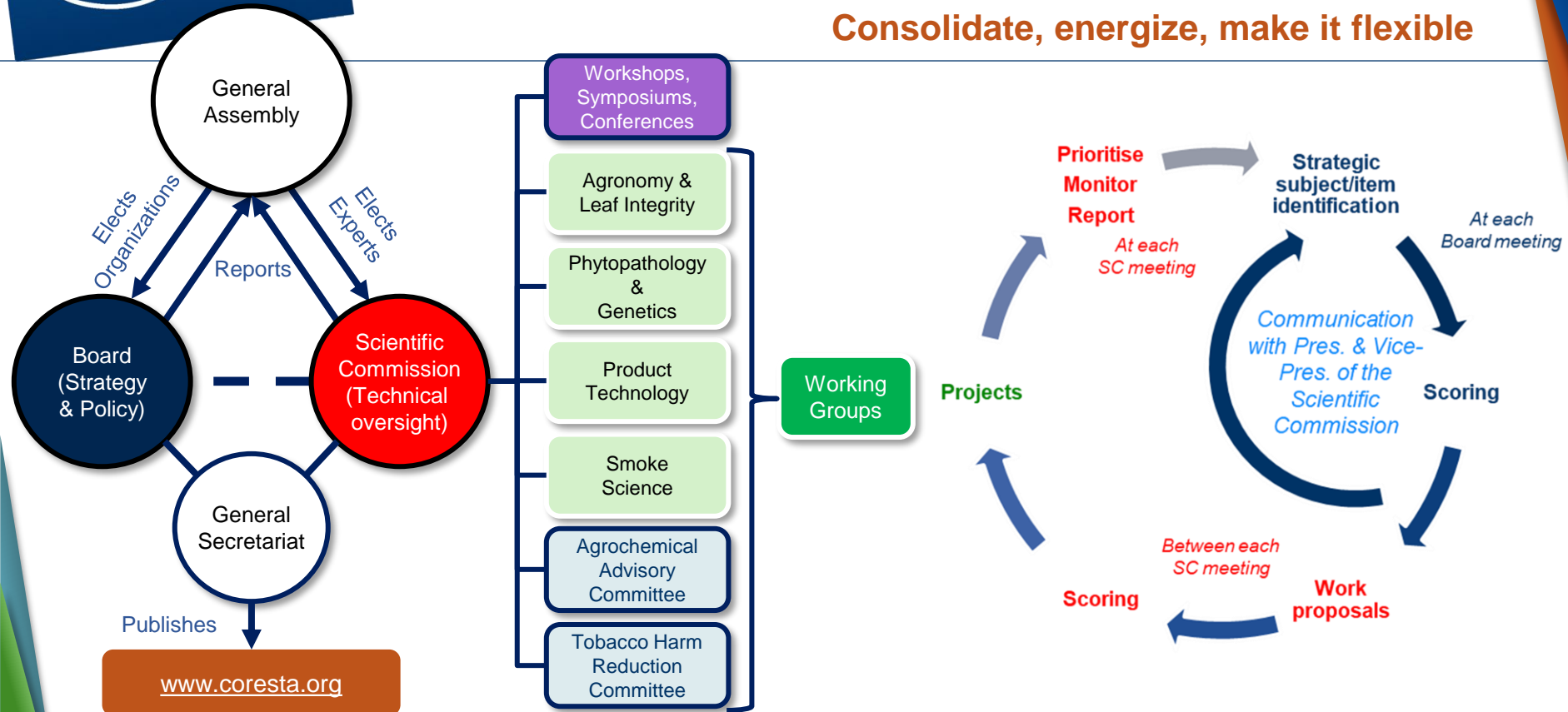
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CORESTA Governance

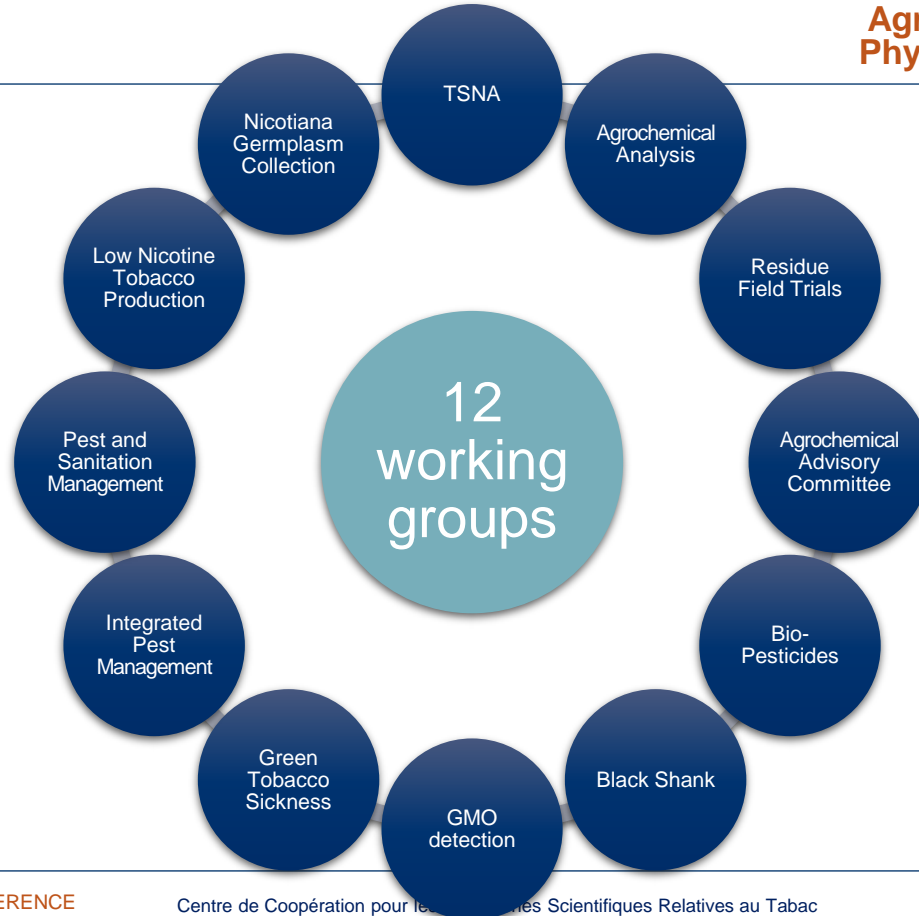
Consolidate, energize, make it flexible





CORESTA Working Groups

Agronomy & Leaf Integrity
Phytopathology & Genetics





Achievements

- **New working groups**
 - **Nicotiana Germplasm Collection**
 - **Green Tobacco Sickness**
 - **Nicotine Pouch Safety and Quality Guidance**
 - **Tobacco Harm Reduction Committee**
- **New leadership**
 - **Collaborative Study Black Shank led by Yuan Zeng from Virginia Tech**
 - **Proficiency Testing for Detection of Transgenic Tobacco led by Sitakanta Pattanaik from the University of Kentucky**



Achievements

- **Reports**

- Sampling Method for Testing TSNAs in Farmer Bales, and Sample Preparation for TSNA Analysis.

- **Methods**

- Nitrate in tobacco by Ion Chromatography

- **Guides**

- No. 1 - The Concept and Implementation of CPA Guidance Residue Levels – **revised**
- No. 3 - Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) Guidelines - **revised**
- No. 16 - Molecular Markers in Tobacco - **revised**
- No. 27 - Identification and elimination of highly hazardous pesticides in leaf tobacco production – **revised and fourth revision almost complete**
- No. 21 - Cigar Tobacco: Best Practices, Crop Protection and CPA Guidance Residue Levels



Achievements

- **Publication in peer-reviewed journals**
 - Molecular regulation and genetic manipulation of alkaloid accumulation in tobacco plants
- **Publication of articles and presentations on CORESTA website**
 - Tobacco Workers Conference (TWC) 2010-2022: 609 references uploaded
 - Tobacco Science 1957-1999: 1636 references uploaded
 - Tobacco Science Research Conference (TSRC) 2001-2023: 1328 references uploaded
 - + abstracts and presentations from CORESTA events
- **Events**
 - Online and in-person Conferences
 - Science Day in Paris, Workshop in Antibes, France
 - Webinar - Low Nicotine Tobacco - Current Insight & Perspectives for the Agricultural Production of Raw Materials
- **Apps**
 - Di@gnoplant - Now available in Portuguese in addition to English and French



- **Publication of a revised version of the Guide No. 17
“*Sustainability in Leaf Tobacco Production*”**
- **Webinar on proficiency testing for pesticide residue analysis in tobacco**
- **Educational webinars open to all**
- **Low nicotine tobacco production field trials**
- **Long term maintenance of public germplasm collection**
- **Tobacco harm reduction and supply chain integrity**

- **Difficult times provide the opportunity to assess organisations**
- **Cooperation is an important factor of resilience and sustainability**
- **Strategic framework of CORESTA is better defined now**
- **Processes of interaction are consolidated, energized and flexible**
- **Projects successfully accomplished over the last three years**
- **Important perspectives and new deliverables are anticipated**



Thank you for your attention