



IPPC: Protecting food security and the environment while facilitating trade

The International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC) is an international plant health agreement, established in 1952 and revised in 1997, that aims to protect cultivated and wild plants by preventing the introduction and spread of pests.

The IPPC has 180+ contracting parties (CPs) and nine regional plant protection organizations (RPPOs), which is governed by the Commission on Phytosanitary Measures (CPM). Since its establishment, the IPPC has helped ensure food security and contributed to protecting biodiversity and the environment, as well as provided the framework for facilitating safe trade by strengthening capacity of its contracting parties.

The WTO SPS Agreement has recognized the international standards, guidelines and Recommendations developed under the auspices of the IPPC as the ones to be followed for plant health.

When you are able to purchase a foreign fruit, vegetable or houseplant, an IPPC standard had something to do with it; usually as a result of an IPPC-developed treatment to prevent a pest or disease from coming along for the ride. The foods you eat, and the products you use, if coming from another country, are available to you as a direct result of the work of the IPPC.



IPPC contributing to food security – Adult *Ceratitis capitata* (Mediterranean fruit fly) is a pest known to infest over 200 fruit and vegetable species. © Pia Scanlon



IPPC contributing to environmental protection – Water hyacinth is an invasive alien species that can grow so densely that a human can walk on it. © Tolojanahary Ranaivosoa



IPPC contributing to trade facilitation – The International Standard on Phytosanitary Measures (ISPM) 15 mark indicates that wooden pallets moved internationally are freed of wood boring pests. © SAG

IPPC Contribution to FAO's Strategic Objectives

- SO2** - Make agriculture, forestry and fisheries more productive and sustainable
- SO4** - Enable inclusive and efficient agricultural and food systems

IPPC Contribution to UN-SDGs for 2030 Agenda

