



BUILDING CONFIDENCE AMONG TRADING PARTNERS THROUGH STRENGTHENED ELECTRONIC PHYTOSANITARY CERTIFICATION

The International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC) is an international plant health agreement that aims to protect cultivated and wild plants by preventing the introduction and spread of pests. The IPPC has 184 contracting parties and is governed by the Commission on Phytosanitary Measures (CPM). Through the implementation of a separate FAO project, the IPPC has launched a new initiative to establish a global hub for electronic phytosanitary (ePhyto) certification. In order to enhance buy-in and uptake beyond the vision of the ePhyto hub project, an increased and consistent demand for use of the hub was envisioned. The objective of the present project was to improve the capacity of countries to implement standards on import and export certification using an ePhyto solution and to enhance their ability for pest exclusion. The project was designed to provide complementary resources to support ePhyto hub activities, as well as complementary actions on implementation, such as capacity development workshops, training sessions and meetings, particularly in the areas of risk communication and risk management based on pest risk analysis.



WHAT DID THE PROJECT DO?

Support was provided to the activities of the IPPC Secretariat's Implementation and Facilitation Unit in order to help contracting parties to implement the Convention, International Standards for Phytosanitary Measures and the recommendations of the CPM, thereby facilitating safe trade of plants and plant products. The ePhyto hub system was maintained, while support was provided for the organization of the Asia and Pacific ePhyto Workshop. As a result, more than 40 countries exchanged phytosanitary certificates in production, helping them to implement standards on import and export certification. Support was provided for the organization of the two IPPC regional workshops – one for the Pacific, the other for Europe and Central Asia – which contributed to increasing the capacity of contracting parties to better understand the IPPC activities in the target regions. In addition, a symposium for pest-free areas and surveillance was organized and technical resources published on the International Phytosanitary Portal.

KEY FACTS

Contribution

USD 754 388

Duration

September 2017 – November 2020

Resource Partner

Government of Japan

Partners

International Plant Protection
Convention Secretariat

Beneficiaries

Contracting party national plant
protection organizations of the
International Plant Protection
Convention, representatives from over
100 countries participating in the project

IMPACT

The expected impact of the project is that safe trade capacity development actions will be aligned with FAO strategic objectives and with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals on trade facilitation.



MAIN ACHIEVEMENTS

- Maintenance of the ePhyto hub overseen.
- Five face-to-face meetings and seven virtual meetings held by the CPM's Implementation and Capacity Development Committee.
- Two regional IPPC workshops organized (one for the Pacific, the other for Europe and Central Asia), attracting more than 70 participants in total.
- Symposium for pest-free areas and surveillance organized and attended by 91 participants, facilitating discussion on the implementation of standards on import and export certification.
- New webpages on the phytosanitary system developed on the International Phytosanitary Portal to provide phytosanitary technical resources on a single platform.



Project Code

FAO: GCP/GLO/827/JPN

Project Title

Cooperation for development of the ePhyto Solution and implementation of the Convention and International Standards for Phytosanitary Measures

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