

Guide to implementation of phytosanitary standards in forestry



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Foreword

New threats to forest health from insects, pathogens and other non-indigenous pests are emerging due to growing global trade and the exploitation of new market opportunities. Habitat modification and increased international pest movements associated with the trade of plants, plant products and other articles such as containers, soil, industrial equipment and personal baggage have all contributed to the spread of pests both within and between countries. Management of pests and preventing their spread plays a key role in helping ensure forests remain healthy, meeting sustainable forestry objectives.

National plant protection organizations (NPPOs), designated under the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC), have historically dealt mostly with agricultural crops. In recent years, however, forest pests have become a more prominent concern and increased communication between forest sector personnel and the NPPOs is needed. All sectors in forestry need to understand what the IPPC is, and how NPPOs work so that the forest sector can play its part in implementing International Standards for Phytosanitary Measures (ISPMs) and help preserve forest health. Understanding the content of ISPMs, which target phytosanitary experts, is not always easy for foresters and differences in phytosanitary and forestry terminology often needs explanation.

FAO therefore initiated a multistakeholder activity to prepare this guide to provide the forest sector with clear and concise guidance on forest health practices, including plain language descriptions of the ISPMs and suggestions for their improved national implementation. The guide has been prepared through a consultative process involving an international group of scientists, phytosanitary authorities and forest sector representatives and is supported by the IPPC Secretariat at FAO.

Understanding and implementing the ISPMs is vital in maintaining forest health and vitality, particularly with expanded global trade increasing the risk of new pest introductions and factors such as local climatic change increasing the possibility of establishment of pests in new areas. This guide will help develop this understanding and assist policy-makers, planners and managers to improve communication between agencies at a national level and apply these standards in the forest sector.



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Acronyms

CBD	Convention on Biological Diversity
CITES	Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora
CPM	Commission on Phytosanitary Measures
IFQRG	International Forestry Quarantine Research Group
IPM	integrated pest management
IPPC	International Plant Protection Convention
ISPMs	International Standards for Phytosanitary Measures
IUFRO	International Union of Forest Research Organizations
NPPO	national plant protection organization
PFA	pest free area
PFPP	pest free place of production
PRA	pest risk analysis
RPPO	regional plant protection organization
SPS	WTO Agreement on the Application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures
TPFQ	Technical Panel on Forest Quarantine
WPM	wood packaging materials
WTO	World Trade Organization

