

IMPROVING PLANT HEALTH CAPACITIES IN COUNTRIES WITHIN THE AFRICAN UNION

Phytosanitary capacity evaluations towards better plant health and more opportunities

WHAT IS THE PROJECT ABOUT?

As part of the European Union-funded project GCP/GLO/949/EU ("Strengthening food control and phytosanitary capacity and governance"), phytosanitary capacities evaluations are being implemented in 11 countries in the African Union to fulfil international obligations, strengthen phytosanitary trade regulatory systems and empower individuals and institutions.

Why plant health?

Evaluating the phytosanitary system of a country is the first step in understanding how to protect its plants and plant products from pests. Strengthened phytosanitary capacity means:

- Increased trade opportunities of plant products and potential access to new markets
- Safeguarded and protected agriculture and crop production
- Maintenance of plant biodiversity

Phytosanitary Capacity Evaluations (PCEs)

The project relies on carrying out PCEs, a process managed by the IPPC secretariat and that has been already successfully implemented in over 80 countries. PCEs are multi-phase processes led by national plant protection organizations (NPPO) and enabled by IPPC facilitators made up of multiple modules meant to identify gaps and opportunities in the country's plant health system. Based on the PCEs, NPPOs prioritize activities and resources and develop a strategic plan towards a more effective phytosanitary system. To find out more about PCEs go to www.ippc.int

WHAT IT ENTAILS

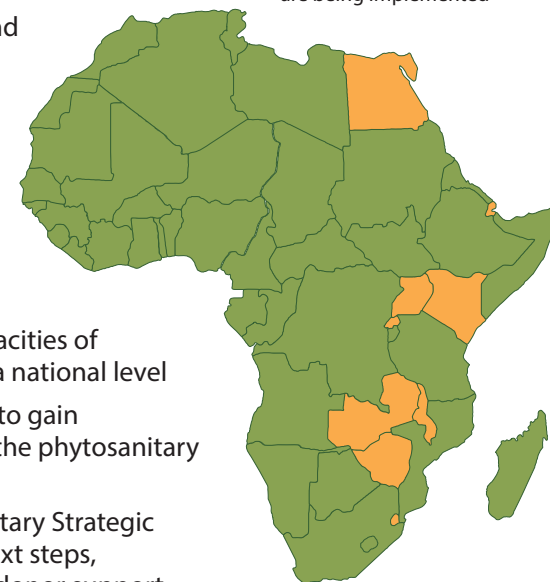
How will the evaluation work?

Countries can decide which of the 13 modules of the PCE to implement, fully tailoring the process to the country's needs.

PCEs are being carried out in 11 countries

Djibouti, Egypt, Eswatini, Kenya, Malawi, Mauritius, Rwanda, Seychelles, Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

■ Countries where PCEs are being implemented



What will the project achieve?

The project will support these countries to increase export potential and enhance food security by:

- Empowering and building capacities of individuals and institutions at a national level
- Helping national stakeholders to gain an in-depth understanding of the phytosanitary system in each country
- Developing detailed Phytosanitary Strategic plans with clear actions and next steps, which can inform requests for donor support

Resulting in:

- Enhanced national capacity to fulfill international obligations
- Revised phytosanitary legal framework in countries requesting it
- Increased confidence among importing NPPOs

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