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## Getting In Touch About CPM FG on Safe Provision of Food and Other Humanitarian Aid (FGSA)

Prepared by IPPC Secretariat for the IPPC Regional Workshops 2025



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## Background: Food and Other Humanitarian Aid & Plant-Health Risk

- Emergency consignments of food, seed, planting material, wood packaging and other articles often enter through expedited channels with limited phytosanitary oversight.
- Countries affected by natural disasters or conflict often lack capacity to detect and manage introduced pests.
- In response, the IPPC and its Commission on Phytosanitary Measures (CPM) established the Focus Group on Safe Provision of Food and Other Humanitarian Aid (FGSA) in 2022.
- The Focus Group developed the Specification 77 which it was approved by the CPM-19 (2025) with priority 1.
  - ✓ The Specification outlines the scope of a future ISPM (2021-020): providing guidance on how to ensure a safe delivery of humanitarian aid during emergencies while preventing the spread of plant pests, especially when the receiving country's phytosanitary systems are compromised or non-functional.





## Topic timeline

2021

- From 2021 IPPC Call for Topics, IPPC work programme includes for discussions topic “Safe provision of food and other humanitarian aid” (Draft specification 2021-020)\*

2022

- CPM established the Focus Group (FG) with approved Terms of Reference, which includes further review on the draft Specification, development of advocacy material, and collection of additional examples of pest introductions via humanitarian aid.

2023

- First meeting of the Focus Group in Fiji
- Preliminary discussions, stakeholder consultations, collection of examples, case studies and background work.
- Financial contribution was provided by Australia for the work of the FG

2024

- CPM: Revised Terms of Reference and extended the FG’s mandate to 2026.
- Second group of the focus group in Barbados: FG reconvenes to review consultation input and finalize a revised draft specification.
- November: Revised draft specification submitted to Standards Committee.

2025

- March: CPM-19 reviews FG outcomes; **Specification 77 is approved** and high priority assigned for developing an ISPM.
- Third meeting of the Focus Group in Kenya: FG met again to begin work on awareness materials (webinar, video) and case study collection.

\*Topic also submitted at the 2019 IPPC call for topics.

Submitted by Pacific Plant Protection Organisation (PPPO), with support from Caribbean Agricultural Health and Food Safety Agency (CAHFSA).





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## Achievements to Date

- CPM-19 approved the development of an ISPM for "Safe Provision of Humanitarian Aid in the Phytosanitary Context" with high priority after inclusive consultations.
- FGSA brought together a broad range of expertise including NPPOs, international agencies, and regional partners.
- Dialogues to strengthen collaboration with FAO, WFP, CODEX, and WOAHA.
- Topic visibility raised through Regional Workshops and strategic discussions across IPPC bodies.





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## From the Specification to the ISPM

The approved specification 77 now outlines the scope of the proposed standard that will:

- Provide operational guidance for managing pest risks during emergencies when it's not possible to fulfil core import functions
- Clarify how existing ISPMs apply in emergency situations and where additional tools are needed.
- Allow for issuance of a phytosanitary certificate where phytosanitary import requirements are unknown
- Lay the foundation for coordinated responses involving aid agencies, donors, and the private sector.
- The expert working group is tentatively planned for 1<sup>st</sup> / 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2026.







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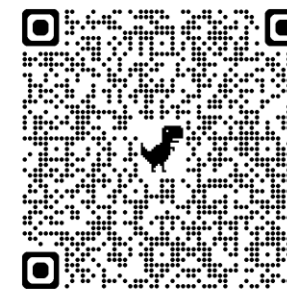


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## Next Steps in 2025

- June 2025 – FGSA met to:
  - Draft an action plan for cooperation with WOA, CODEX, WFP, and FAO, at first instance.
  - Began development of an IPPC webinar on Safe Aid (planned for 1<sup>st</sup> quarter of 2026).
  - Review script and planning for an IPPC informative video.
- Laying groundwork for the expert working group that will develop the ISPM.



Focus group webpage



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## Support and Participation Moving Forward

- IPPC contracting parties and RPPOs are encouraged to:
  - Share national examples of pest risks linked to humanitarian aid and send to the IPPC Secretariat.
  - Support the topic, note and implement the adopted CPM Recommendation R-09 on the “safe provisions of humanitarian aid in the phytosanitary context).
- Partner organizations can:
  - Contribute to inter-agency coordination and communications.
  - Collaborate on messaging for the upcoming video and outreach materials.
- The Final report of the focus group will be provided to the CPM-20 (2026)







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# Thank you

**IPPC Secretariat**

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