



COMMISSION ON PHYTOSANITARY MEASURES

TWENTIETH SESSION

REPORT FROM THE IMPLEMENTATION AND CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

AGENDA ITEM 9.2

(Prepared by the IPPC Secretariat, with input from the IC chairperson and the IC vice-chairperson)

1. Introduction

- [1] **The Implementation and Capacity Development Committee (IC)** is a subsidiary body of the Commission on Phytosanitary Measures (CPM) that **supports and oversees activities related to the implementation of the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC), the International Standards for Phytosanitary Measures (ISPMs) and CPM recommendations, and the development of capacities required to enable their effective application.** The committee develops, monitors and provides strategic guidance on capacity development initiatives, while also addressing implementation-related issues to assist contracting parties in putting agreed phytosanitary obligations and standards into practice.
- [2] Implementation and capacity development (ICD) resources are developed by subject matter experts through global and inclusive working groups, under the auspices of the IPPC Secretariat, with oversight from the IC. IPPC guides and training materials are targeted to meet specific needs identified by the IPPC community and are developed in accordance with the priorities identified in the *List of topics for implementation and capacity development* (ICD-LOT) and procedures set by the IC. The changes to the ICD-LOT¹ are presented in the paper to be considered under agenda item 9.2.1.
- [3] This paper provides an overview of the 2025 IPPC ICD activities and key achievements.

2. Governance and strategic oversight

2.1 Implementation of IPPC Strategic Framework development-agenda items

- [4] The IC plays a significant role in the implementation of the IPPC Strategic Framework 2020–2030 by overseeing or providing technical input in advancing the work under five (5) of the eight (8) development-agenda items (DAIs). Under IC guidance, the secretariat's Implementation and Facilitation Unit (IFU) coordinates and advances work on the following DAIs:
- harmonization of electronic data exchange;
 - e-commerce, and postal and courier channels;
 - strengthening pest outbreak alert and response systems (POARS);
 - developing guidelines on the use of third-party entities; and
 - climate changes and phytosanitary issues.

¹ *List of topics for implementation and capacity development:* <https://www.ippc.int/en/core-activities/capacity-development/list-topics-ippc-implementation/list>

- [5] The IFU supports and coordinates the implementation of workplans for these DAIs through IC teams, relevant steering groups, and a CPM focus group. Detailed reports of the activities implemented in these DAIs are presented under **agenda item 13**.

2.2 IC May and November 2025 meetings

- [6] **The IC met in Rome, Italy, in May 2025 to reflect on CPM-19 (2025) implementation decisions and explored ways to action them.** During the meeting, the IC discussed the issue of **rethinking ISPMs**. The IC's vision for, and contribution to, this issue was presented to the Strategic Planning Group (SPG) in October 2025, which is also detailed in the paper to be considered under agenda item 6.1 (Rethinking ISPMs).
- [7] **The IC considered practical actions to implement the CPM decision on the IPPC Call for Topics: Standards and Implementation.** The call will remain open for a two-year trial period, during which submissions will be reviewed by the Standards Committee (SC) and the IC, and the Task Force on Topics will be paused. The IC agreed on a timetable for an IC Team on Implementation Topics to conduct a preliminary assessment before submitting its findings to the IC for discussion about inclusion in the ICD-LOT.
- [8] **The IC welcomed the launch of the new e-learning platform, the IPPC Plant Health Campus,** which had been officially launched during CPM-19 (2025).² The platform provides a free and innovative learning hub for the IPPC community, offering certification for 12 e-learning courses, a pest emergency simulation tool, and resources to support continuous and accessible capacity development for national plant protection organization (NPPO) staff, academia and other stakeholders. Further information is provided in the paper to be considered under agenda item 15.1 (IPPC Plant Health Campus and translations).
- [9] **The IC is actively promoting forward-looking approaches to plant health.** During the May meeting, the IC also held an open session on projects entitled “Smart plant health: what does the future look like?”³ organized in webinar format. The session provided an opportunity for NPPOs, regional plant protection organizations (RPPOs), international research centres, agritech companies and government institutions to share innovative initiatives, ranging from real-time monitoring systems to diagnostic and scalable digital tools. The event was highly successful, attracting over 400 participants from NPPOs, regional organizations, donor agencies, research institutions, and the private sector.⁴
- [10] **The IC engaged closely with observer organizations to support both the implementation of the IPPC and ISPMs and the capacity development needed to enable their effective application.** During the May meeting, observer organizations – including the Comité de Liaison Entrepreneuriat-Agriculture-Développement, the European Commission, the International Atomic Energy Agency, the Standards and Trade Development Facility, and the World Bank – presented their phytosanitary activities related to implementation and capacity development, with a view to strengthening collaboration and synergies with IPPC work in both areas.
- [11] The May meeting also provided an opportunity for the IC to discuss the outcomes from the various activities marking the International Day of Plant Health and to receive updates from IPPC Secretariat units. Further information on the outcomes of the International Day of Plant Health is provided in the paper to be considered under agenda item 21.1 (Update on communication activities including the International Day of Plant Health).

² IPPC Plant Health Campus: <https://elearning.fao.org/course/ippc-campus>

³ IC webinar on innovations in plant health: <https://www.ippc.int/en/events/webinars/smart-plant-health-what-does-the-future-look-like/>

⁴ Global webinar showcases smart plant health innovations to the international community: <https://www.ippc.int/en/news/global-webinar-showcases-smart-plant-health-innovations-to-the-international-community/>

- [12] In November 2025, the IC met in Bari, Italy. This location was selected to enable IC members to observe first-hand the implementation activities deployed following the introduction of *Xylella fastidiosa* in the Apulia region. The meeting was held following an invitation from, and in collaboration with, the Mediterranean Agronomic Institute of Bari and the Apulian Plant Protection Service. During the field visit, IC members observed symptoms of *X. fastidiosa*, measures taken, and the actions put in place to respond to and recover from the pest. The IC drew parallels between this outbreak and the work undertaken under the DAI on POARS, highlighting the importance of sustained prevention, preparedness, and response and recovery capacities, and the utmost importance of awareness-raising among stakeholders and the general public.
- [13] During the November meeting, the IC reviewed the 2025 workplans of its subgroups and teams, assessed progress in DAI implementation, and approved workplans and priority activities for 2026. The IC noted the significant expansion of the IPPC ePhyto Solution, now used by 98 countries.
- [14] On the topic of e-commerce, the IC noted the completion of Phase 1 activities and endorsed presenting a Phase 2 roadmap to CPM-20 (2026) for approval. For POARS, IC members acknowledged progress in pest alert systems, supported governance transition, and agreed to promote the upcoming expert call on *Rhizoctonia theobromae*⁵ – an emerging pest of cocoa and manioc – while strengthening synergies with regional programmes. The IC also discussed mainstreaming climate change into ICD, requested that case studies be presented through posters during CPM-20 (2026) and welcomed the idea of an CPM innovation fair. Finally, updates on the development of guides for third-party entities were noted. All DAI updates are further detailed in dedicated papers under agenda 13.
- [15] The IC noted progress on guides and training materials and ongoing translations into French and Spanish. It updated the ICD-LOT, emphasized the need for funding for additional translations, and agreed to review development procedures in May 2026.
- [16] Further information on the 2025 IC meeting outcomes is available on the International Phytosanitary Portal (IPP).⁶

2.3 Collaboration with the Standards Committee

- [17] Recognizing the importance of closer collaboration to enhance efficiency in IPPC processes, the IC reviewed its ongoing interaction with the SC and identified opportunities to optimize coordination. To support systematic tracking of implementation issues arising during ISPM development and other IPPC processes, the IC agreed to establish a dedicated repository in the restricted area of the IPP, enabling more streamlined information sharing and informed decision-making.
- [18] The IC invited the SC to revise its terms of reference to ensure stable IC representation as an observer during SC meetings, strengthening coordination and collaboration. It endorsed linking adopted ISPMs with relevant implementation materials on the IPP to improve accessibility. The IC also reviewed implementation challenges reported by contracting parties during the 2025 IPPC regional workshops, including training needs, NPPO capacity gaps, and translation shortages, and agreed to revisit these issues at its May 2026 meeting. Additionally, the IC requested that the SC recommend options for storing the annexes proposed for removal from ISPM 26 (*Establishment of pest free areas for fruit flies (Tephritidae)*) as “interim guidance material” and to submit a specification for developing replacement guidance.

⁵ Call for experts for the Expert Working Group on *Rhizoctonia theobromae*: <https://www.ippc.int/en/calls/call-for-experts-for-the-expert-working-group-on-rhizoctonia-theobromae/>

⁶ IC meeting reports: <https://www.ippc.int/en/commission/capacity-development-committee/>

3. Activities of the IC subgroup and IC teams

[19] The IC established the following groups to support the implementation of its mandate:

- IC subgroup:
 - IC Subgroup on the IPPC Observatory;
- IC teams:
 - IC Team on Contributed Resources,
 - IC Team on E-commerce,
 - IC Team on Fusarium TR4 (dissolved in 2025),
 - IC Team on Implementation Topics,
 - IC Team on National Reporting Obligations,
 - IC Team on Phytosanitary Capacity Evaluation, and
 - IC Team on Projects.

3.1 IC Subgroup on the IPPC Observatory

[20] In 2025, the IC Subgroup on the IPPC Observatory oversaw key observatory activities, providing guidance and technical support, as needed. These activities included completing the studies on e-commerce and antimicrobial use, the redesign and standardization of the Third IPPC General Survey, and continued coordination and collaboration with the Codex Alimentarius and World Organization for Animal Health (WOAH) observatories.

[21] The e-commerce study assessed phytosanitary risk management practices in online trade, while the antimicrobial-use study examined antimicrobial and fungicide use in plant health. Both study reports are expected to be published in 2026. The Third IPPC General Survey was redesigned and standardized for a refined scope, repeatability, and strategic value. This work was reviewed and supported not only by the IC subgroup, but also by the IC, the SC and the SPG, and aligned with best practices applied by the Codex and WOAH observatories. This work has been conducted with financial support from the Government of the Republic of Korea.

[22] The IPPC Observatory call for topics was launched with the general IPPC Call for Topics: Standards and Implementation, for a trial period of two years. The IPPC Observatory submission form was presented and explained during an IPPC webinar, which was dedicated to supporting NPPOs and RPPOs to make topic submissions that met the basic criteria.⁷ A new topic proposal from Australia, on *Survey on the current regulatory status and current use of phytosanitary systems approaches to facilitate safe trade in plant products* (2025-012), was received and will be assessed at the May 2026 meeting of the IC, taking into account the outcomes of the *IPPC global workshop on systems approaches* held in December 2025.

[23] The mid-term evaluation of the IPPC Strategic Framework 2020–2030 could not be conducted because of a lack of funding. With CPM-19 (2025) guidance, it was shifted to become a final evaluation, ideally to be conducted in 2027. Revised terms of reference for the final evaluation were presented to the CPM Bureau in June and to the 2025 meeting of the SPG, and were subsequently refined. At the 2025 SPG meeting, it was proposed that the FAO Evaluation Office take the lead in conducting the final evaluation; the IC noted this and agreed to await the CPM's decision on the matter.

[24] Further information is provided in the paper to be considered under agenda item 13.9.

⁷ Enhancing the quality of new topic proposals for plant health standards and IPPC implementation: <https://www.ippc.int/en/events/webinars/enhancing-the-quality-of-new-topic-proposals-for-plant-health-standards-and-ippc-implementation/>

3.2 Phytosanitary capacity evaluation

- [25] Phytosanitary capacity evaluation (PCE) consolidated its role as a high-impact process for strengthening national phytosanitary systems and catalysing investment. Progress under the PCE Improvement Roadmap⁸ advanced across all key result areas, with expanded country uptake, strengthened facilitator capacity, revised technical modules, and multilingual e-learning now reinforcing consistent application in line with the PCE Strategy 2020–2023 set by the IC.
- [26] Countries applying PCE increasingly translate assessment outcomes into actionable national strategies and donor-ready proposals, directly leading to resource mobilization. Eight COMESA⁹ countries have developed donor-ready project concepts. In parallel, Uganda secured EUR 8 million from the European Union (EU) and USD 5.5 million nationally, Rwanda received USD 200 000 from Trademark Africa, and Ethiopia obtained USD 1 million through the Standards and Trade Development Facility.
- [27] Complementing country-level results, analytical studies completed in 2025 confirmed that sustained, programmatic use of PCE contributes to durable gains in phytosanitary performance, trade, and agricultural growth. A social dimension was addressed to support effective implementation through guidance on gender and youth integration.¹⁰
- [28] The certification of ten new facilitators further expanded the global PCE delivery network.
- [29] Looking ahead, the IC endorsed the PCE roadmap for 2026–2027, showing completed, ongoing and unfunded activities. While the roadmap confirms strong demand and strategic relevance, it also identifies the modernization of the PCE online platform and IPPC Secretariat-level maintenance as critical investment gaps. The IC, therefore, encouraged active resource mobilization.
- [30] Further information is provided in the paper to be considered under agenda item 15.2.

3.3 National reporting obligations

- [31] In 2025, as a result of resource constraints, activities related to national reporting obligations (NROs) focused primarily on responding to contracting party requests for basic support, particularly for updating IPP profiles. The IC Team on NROs continued discussions on reporting by territories, with consultations to continue in 2026 in collaboration with the FAO Legal Office and concerned NPPOs.
- [32] The IC team provided recommendations on how to improve the integration of NROs into the Africa Phytosanitary Programme (APP). It is believed that this integration can increase the reporting level of APP countries on the IPP, particularly on the list of regulated pests. The 2026 workplan for NROs was approved by the IC, and focuses on targeted support, platform enhancements, and revising the NRO guide if resources allow. For promotion and awareness-raising on NROs, the IC suggested cost-effective options such as webinars and e-learning, especially in view of resource limitations, and encouraged collaboration with POARS and the APP.

3.4 Authorization of third-party entities

- [33] The IPPC Secretariat is advancing on the development of two guides on third-party entities: *Authorization of entities to perform phytosanitary actions* and *Audit in the phytosanitary context*. Funding from the Governments of Australia and Canada supports these efforts, with work on the audit guide set to begin in early 2026, following the call for experts that opened in November 2025.¹¹ A call

⁸ Approved by the IC in May 2024 and revised in November 2024.

⁹ Under the framework of the EU-funded project Strengthening Food Control and Phytosanitary Capacities and Governance (GCP/GLO/949/EC).

¹⁰ How to integrate gender and youth in PCEs: <https://openknowledge.fao.org/items/2a0e90d8-aaf1-44f9-a546-d98e6900f643>

¹¹ Call for experts and contributed resources: To develop IPPC guide on *Audit in the phytosanitary context* (2021-009): <https://www.ippc.int/en/calls/call-for-experts-and-contributed-resources-to-develop-ippc-guide-on-audit-in-the-phytosanitary-context-2021-009/>

for experts for the development of the authorization guide is planned for mid to late 2026. The secretariat emphasizes promoting broad expert participation to ensure wide representation.

- [34] Further information is provided in the paper to be considered under agenda item 13.4 (Enabling the use of third-party entities).

3.5 E-commerce

- [35] Work under this DAI is structured in two phases. Phase 1, focused on foundational tools, guidance materials and baseline data collection, ended in 2025. Pending CPM approval, Phase 2 (2026–2030) may begin, building on the results of Phase 1 and the findings of the *IPPC Observatory study on e-commerce*.
- [36] Significant progress was made on the *IPPC Observatory study on e-commerce*, with the study report and its recommendations being reviewed and refined throughout 2025. Drawing on the outcomes and recommendations of the e-commerce study, the IC team proposed a roadmap for Phase 2 (2026–2030) of this DAI for CPM consideration. Phase 2 aims to advance targeted implementation activities, strengthen cross-border collaboration, and address the capacity gaps identified through the observatory study. The estimated cost to deliver the Phase 2 activities is USD 120 000 per year, consistent with the overarching implementation plan of the IPPC Strategic Framework 2020–2030. In Phase 2, a second IPPC Observatory study is planned for 2029 to assess progress against the baseline established in 2024.
- [37] Further information is provided in the paper to be considered under agenda item 13.3 (Management of e-commerce and postal and courier pathways).

3.6 Projects

- [38] The IC open session on projects – *Smart plant health, what does the future look like?* – was one of the key highlights of 2025. The webinar showcased five innovative plant-health projects selected from ten submissions by the IC Team on Projects. The event attracted over 400 participants worldwide and facilitated knowledge exchange among NPPOs, RPPOs and partner organizations.
- [39] The IC team also reviewed and agreed on a list of observer organizations to be invited to future IC meetings, including:
- CAB International;
 - Comité de Liaison Entrepreneuriat–Agriculture–Développement;
 - Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit;
 - European Commission;
 - European Food Safety Authority;
 - Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture;
 - International Atomic Energy Agency;
 - Standards and Trade Development Facility;
 - Trademark Africa; and
 - World Bank.
- [40] The IPPC Secretariat continues to manage several ICD projects, including:
- an [EU-funded Strategic Framework support project](#) (USD 1.67 million);
 - a project funded by the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to support the APP (USD 1.2 million);
 - [Japan's support for implementation activities](#) (USD 1 million); and
 - the recently closed [EU-funded food control and phytosanitary governance project](#) (USD 7 million total).

- [41] The secretariat provided backstopping to FAO-led projects in Cambodia, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Namibia, Pakistan and Viet Nam, primarily supporting PCE implementation and compliance.

3.7 Contributed resources

- [42] The IC Team on Contributed Resources developed and piloted a verification procedure for maintaining active hyperlinks to contributed resources on the IPP.¹² Of approximately 300 contributed resources on the IPP, 84 contained problematic links (URLs). The IC team is progressing the review and verification of all these links.

3.8 Review of implementation topics

- [43] In May 2025, the IC established a new IC team to review the implementation topics submitted during the open call for topics. Following the team's feedback, the IC agreed to include the topic *Guidance on operating a phytosanitary import regulatory system* in the ICD-LOT and to review specifications during the May 2026 meeting. The IC has assigned the IC team to review the implementation challenges identified by contracting parties during the IPPC regional workshops and recommend ways to move forward.

3.9 Fusarium TR4

- [44] In response to the CPM's request for the secretariat to lead global coordination efforts on Fusarium TR4, the secretariat organized an initial coordination meeting with relevant units within FAO: the World Banana Forum, the Joint FAO–International Atomic Energy Agency Centre of Nuclear Techniques in Food and Agriculture, the Plant Production and Protection Division's Locust and Transboundary Plant Pests and Diseases Team, and the Office of Emergencies and Resilience.
- [45] The IC agreed on the dissolution of the IC Team on Fusarium TR4, as the main activities of the team's terms of references had been completed. Global coordination efforts on Fusarium TR4 will be limited to instances where support is specifically requested by FAO units and contracting parties, and if synergies under POARS exist.
- [46] The IC further recommended that their compiled list of remaining activities would be shared with the POARS Steering Group for review and consideration. The secretariat thanks the members of the IC team, as presented in Appendix 1, for their outstanding contribution and commitment to deliver the activities on Fusarium TR4.

4. Development of implementation materials

- [47] Since May 2025, four new e-learning courses and a pest emergency simulation tool were published, in addition to the eight resources already existing, thereby completing the *Plant health officer training curricula* topic:
- [Emergency preparedness for plant pest outbreaks](#);
 - [Wood packaging material in international trade](#);
 - [Achieving market access for plants and plant products](#);
 - [How a national plant protection organization functions](#); and
 - [Pest emergency simulation: prevent, prepare, respond](#).
- [48] The secretariat expresses its appreciation to the members of the Plant Health Officer Training Curricula Working Group, listed in Appendix 1, for their outstanding contributions and commitment to the development and delivery of state-of-the-art e-learning courses and the pest emergency simulation tool.

¹² IPP page for contributed resources: <https://www.ippc.int/en/about/core-activities/capacity-development/guides-and-training-materials/contributed-resource-list/>

- [49] Several guides are also under development, including one on risk-based inspection (funded by the Republic of Korea) and two wood packaging treatment manuals. Two guides – on audits and authorization of entities – are proposed to be upgraded to priority 1, to allow work to begin in 2026 (see section 3.4).
- [50] Three new additions to the ICD-LOT are being proposed and include e-learning courses on: 1) the IPPC ePhyto Solution implementation training package; 2) visual examination of sea containers; and 3) risk-based inspection. Translations of guides and courses into Arabic, Chinese, French, Spanish and Russian are ongoing with support from various partners. Financial and in-kind contributions for further translations are encouraged within the IPPC community.

4.1 Translations and recognition of partners and in-kind proofreaders

- [51] The secretariat made considerable progress initiating and publishing translations of IPPC guides and e-learning courses in 2025. In 2025, three guides in French, two guides in Spanish, nine e-learning courses in French, two e-learning courses in Spanish and two study reports in French were published. The detailed status of IPPC guide and training material translations, including those published in 2025, with partners providing in-kind translations or funding, is provided in the paper to be considered under agenda item 15.1.
- [52] Translating IPPC guides and e-learning courses depends on the generous support of partners including contracting parties and donors. This support can involve providing funds to cover the costs associated with the translation or offering the in-kind services of a translator to provide the translation. The partners who provided their support for the translations that were published in 2025 or are ongoing are listed in Appendix 2.
- [53] Each translated guide and training material is proofread for accuracy, prior to publication, by a native-language speaker familiar with phytosanitary concepts and terminology. The list in Appendix 2 presents IPPC proofreaders who provided their support to the IPPC guide and e-learning courses that were published in 2025.
- [54] The IC and IFU are requesting that the CPM acknowledge the contributions made by partners and volunteer proofreaders in carrying out this important work.

5. IC recommendations to the CPM

- [55] During the IC November 2025 meeting, the IC discussed key recommendations that should be brought to the attention of CPM-20 (2026).

5.1. Ensure sustainable funding for core implementation activities

- [56] The present paper is making a case demonstrating the critical importance of ICD activities, for which CPM-19 (2025) acknowledged there is insufficient or an absence of funding. This relates particularly to the following activities:
- NROs represent the baseline obligations of contracting parties as defined in the convention text and are critically important for the effective implementation of POARS.
 - POARS is a key IPPC DAI that consolidates collective efforts across the IPPC community, strengthening preparedness and enabling more effective and coordinated outbreak prevention and response.
 - PCE implementation needs to continue to expand. Its delivery has demonstrated strong results in driving in-depth structural, legal and institutional improvements within NPPOs. The implementation of PCE is recognized as being cost-effective and it facilitates access to funding. However, the IPPC Secretariat currently lacks a dedicated budget to administer, maintain and further improve the PCE tool, which is in need of modernization.
 - The IPPC Observatory has proven useful in providing evidence-based information necessary for relevant decision-making. It has contributed to the monitoring of implementation progress and has helped emerging trends and capacity gaps to be identified. Its activities are, however,

supported on an ad hoc basis, without predictable and sustainable funding for coordination, data analysis, dissemination of results, and follow-up actions.

[57] The IC, the CPM and contracting parties have all acknowledged the fundamental importance of these activities, which therefore require adequate and predictable funding to be implemented effectively.

[58] Consequently, the IC recalls the CPM-19 (2025) recommendation to the Financial Committee and the IPPC secretary to secure predictable and sustainable funding for essential implementation activities that remain underfunded, including NROs, POARS, PCE, the IPPC Observatory, and development of guides and training materials. To ensure continuity and impact, an estimated USD 50 000 per activity per year should be allocated from the FAO Regular Programme and the IPPC Multidonor Trust Fund.

5.2 Address staffing gaps in the Implementation and Facilitation Unit

[59] The IFU workload has increased significantly over time. The IFU is currently responsible for five of the eight DAIs, as well as for overall ICD activities, as described in this paper and in the IPPC Secretariat update under agenda item 7. However, the number of regular budget staff positions within the IFU has not increased over the past seven years. Continued reliance on project-based and voluntary contributions has resulted in resource shortfalls and has limited talent retention, as well as the coherence, predictability and sustainability of the IFU workplan. This situation has contributed to delays in the drafting and publication of several guides currently under development.

[60] Recognizing the severe understaffing of the IFU, the IC recommends creating **three additional regular funded positions** beyond the existing three. This measure, originally highlighted in the 2014 enhancement evaluation and acknowledged by CPM-19 (2025), is essential to ensure the unit can deliver on its growing mandate effectively.

5.3 Promote and expand the IPPC Plant Health Campus

[61] The IPPC Plant Health Campus represents a major innovation in plant-health learning and has already demonstrated its value and effectiveness, with more than 15 000 learners registered within a few months and growing interest from several universities.

[62] The IC urges contracting parties and partners to actively integrate the Plant Health Campus training resources into NPPO training programmes and university curricula. Furthermore, it calls for the mobilization of resources to translate these materials into all FAO official languages, with priority given to **Arabic, Chinese and Russian**, to ensure global accessibility and inclusivity.

5.4 Strengthen regional knowledge exchange

[63] The IPPC regional workshops provide a unique forum for discussion among countries at the regional level and with the IPPC Secretariat, offering an opportunity to coordinate on comments for draft ISPMs, learn about new and ongoing IPPC ICD activities, share experiences, understand regional situations, and identify national and regional needs.

[64] To foster collaboration and address pressing implementation challenges, the IC recommends dedicating sufficient time in IPPC regional workshop agendas for discussions on implementation issues and region-specific priorities. This will enable countries to share experiences, coordinate actions, and collectively advance phytosanitary capacity development.

Recommendations

[65] The CPM is invited to:

- (1) *note* the work of the IC in 2025, the activities of the IC Subgroup on the IPPC Observatory, and the activities of the IC teams on e-commerce, Fusarium TR4, authorization of third-party entities, review of implementation topics, NROs, PCE, projects, and contributed resources;
- (2) *note* the CPM-19 (2025) decision *requesting* that the IPPC secretary, with the advice and guidance of the Financial Committee or CPM Bureau, consider the establishment of three additional

- regular-funded positions for the IFU, especially for the development of guides and training materials, in order for the team to deliver its core mandate, as recommended in the 2014 IPPC Secretariat enhancement evaluation;
- (3) *note* the CPM-19 (2025) decision *requesting* that the IPPC secretary, with the advice and guidance of the Financial Committee or CPM Bureau, consider the proposed provision of adequate financial resources for core and priority IPPC activities that are unfunded or underfunded – USD 50 000 per year for NROs, USD 50 000 per year for PCE, USD 50 000 per year for POARS, USD 50 000 per year for the IPPC Observatory, USD 50 000 per year for the development of guides and training materials;
 - (4) *request* that the IPPC secretary collaborate with the CPM Bureau to prioritize the aforementioned actions and activities in 2026, and *encourage* contracting parties and partners to provide financial support and in-kind contributions to support implementation and capacity development activities;
 - (5) *thank* the experts involved in the development of the IPPC guides and training materials (as presented in Appendix 1) following their outstanding contributions; and
 - (6) *acknowledge* the invaluable support provided by partners and proofreaders (as presented in Appendix 2) in translating the IPPC guides and training materials and verifying the accuracy of the translations.

The designations employed and the presentation of material in this document do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) concerning the legal or development status of any country, territory, city or area or of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries.

Appendix 1. Acknowledgement of experts for their contributions towards IPPC guides and training materials

1. Members of the IC Team on Fusarium TR4

[1] The experts in the IC Team on Fusarium TR4, which is now dissolved after having completed its terms of reference, provided technical support to develop training materials and to deliver Fusarium TR4 activities.

[2] The experts were:

- Mariluz AYALA VASQUEZ (Colombia);
- Doreen Malekano CHOMBA (Zambia);
- Sospeter Gachuhi GACHAMBA (Kenya);
- Monica GALLO LARA (Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit GmbH, Ecuador);
- Lucien KOUAMÉ KONAN (Côte D'Ivoire);
- Daniel Kouame KRA (Côte D'Ivoire);
- Chunyu LI (China);
- Diane MOSTERT (South Africa);
- Melisa Graciela NEDILSKYJ (Argentina);
- Saif Mohammed, SAIF ALKAABI (Oman);
- Julian SMITH (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);
- Xiaoliang WANG (China); and
- Laura WAUTERS (Committee Linking Entrepreneurship-Agriculture-Development, Belgium).

2. Plant Health Officer Curricula working group members

[3] The working group members made invaluable contributions to the development and review of the technical content of all new e-learning courses to address the implementation and capacity development topic *IPPC plant health officer training curricula* (2017-054). The topic also provided a suite of training materials for Phytosanitary Capacity Evaluation facilitators.

[4] The working group members were:

- Anna BIRMINGHAM (Canada);
- Kenia-Rosa CAMPO (Trinidad and Tobago);
- Anna Maria D'ONGHIA (International Center for Advanced Mediterranean Agronomic Studies, Italy);
- Elizabeth McCRUDDEN (Australia);
- Guadalupe MONTES (Argentina);
- Teddy MUTONI (Rwanda);
- Mudada NHAMO (Zimbabwe);
- Namikoye Everlyne SAMITA (Kenya);
- Laura WAUTERS (Committee Linking Entrepreneurship-Agriculture-Development, Belgium); and
- Kyu-Ock YIM (Republic of Korea).

Appendix 2: Partners who provided translations of IPPC guides and e-learning courses, and proofreaders

1. Partners who provided generous support with the translations of IPPC guides and e-learning courses:

- Canadian Food Inspection Agency, Canada;
- Comité de Sanidad Vegetal del Cono Sur;
- Committee Linking Entrepreneurship-Agriculture-Development;
- Department of Crop Production, Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs, China
- European and Mediterranean Plant Protection Organization;
- European Union;
- FAO Regional Office Caribbean and Latin America;
- FAO Subregional Office for Eastern Africa;
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