



Update from the IPPC global workshop on systems approaches

COMMISSION ON PHYTOSANITARY MEASURES

TWENTIETH SESSION

UPDATE FROM THE IPPC GLOBAL WORKSHOP ON SYSTEMS APPROACHES

AGENDA ITEM 18.1

(Prepared by the IPPC Secretariat and CPM Chairperson)

INTRODUCTION

- [1] The suggestion for an IPPC global workshop on systems approaches came from a [proposal](#) during the Nineteenth Session of the Commission of Phytosanitary Measures (CPM-19), building on the CPM-18 (2024) science session and the CPM-19 (2025) side session¹. The proposal for the IPPC Global Workshop on Systems Approaches was to bridge the gap between the technical potential of integrated measures and their underutilization in international trade. Despite providing a robust alternative to stand-alone treatments, systems approaches remain insufficiently understood by many contracting parties. This initiative aimed to revitalize the understanding and implementation of [International Standard for Phytosanitary Measures \(ISPM\) 14 \(The use of integrated measures in a systems approach for plant pest risk management\)](#), offering a global platform to harmonize the development and acceptance of these measures.
- [2] The IPPC Secretariat in collaboration with the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA), the Agriculture and Livestock Service of Chile (SAG-Chile), the Comité de Sanidad Vegetal del Cono Sur (COSAVE), Government of Canada, the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), and the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (DAFF-Australia), co-organized and developed a four-day program for the IPPC Global Workshop on Systems Approaches - Advancing Understanding and Implementation of Integrated Measures for Pest Risk Management² in Santiago, Chile on 1-4 December 2025. The Workshop was followed by a side event - field trip on Friday, 5 December 2025 organized by [IICA, COSAVE, SAG and “Frutas de Chile”](#) organization to cherry orchards and packing houses to observe on-the-ground implementation of systems approaches.
- [3] The workshop had more than 100 participants representing 48 national plant protection organizations (NPPOs), two regional plant protection organizations (RPPOs), five industry stakeholders and six international organizations and the presentation of 18 case studies submitted by IPPC contracting parties and RPPOs. The workshop was held in English and Spanish (with interpretation) and in-person only.

Workshop preparations

- [4] The [IPPC Global Workshop on Systems Approaches](#) was established as a high-priority initiative by CPM-19 (2025) following a call for host countries during the session. In April 2025, the CPM Bureau

¹ CPM-19 side session: <https://www.ippc.int/en/commission/cpm/cpm-sessions/cpm-19/cpm-19-side-sessions/cpm-19-side-session-the-systems-approach-principles-practical-tools-and-an-upcoming-ippc-workshop/>

² IPPC Global Workshop on Systems Approaches: <https://www.ippc.int/en/events/webinars/ippc-global-workshop-on-systems-approaches-advancing-understanding-and-implementation-of-integrated-measures-for-pest-risk-management/>

officially selected Chile as the host. Navigating transitional leadership and staffing constraints, the secretariat demonstrated institutional resilience by successfully integrating the workshop into the annual work plan. Execution was aligned with governance procedures for IPPC global events (see Appendix 2 of the [Procedure Manual for Governance](#)). A key lesson learned for any future IPPC global event is that a reasonable preparation period and appropriate resource allocation are essential to safeguard the operational stability of both the IPPC Secretariat and organizing committee members, as well as to enable effective participation and contribution from contracting parties' experts. Such lead time is critical to ensure that staff capacity, financial resources, and countries or RPPOs expert's contributions are strategically prioritized and effectively mobilized without compromising the delivery of the core IPPC work programme.

- [5] Strategic direction was managed by an Organizing Committee comprising the CPM Bureau, IICA, SAG-Chile, COSAVE, and experts from Canada, Australia, and the USDA. To ensure technical rigor, three specialized subgroups were established: 1) Programme Subgroup: Led by Tanya Staffen (Canada), responsible for technical curriculum and interactive exercises; 2) Communications Subgroup: Led by the IPPC Secretariat, managing global outreach and digital assets; 3) Logistics and Budget Subgroup: Led by the IPPC Secretariat, overseeing logistics, travels and financial management and coordination with FAO Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean (RLC), IICA and COSAVE.
- [6] To promote global knowledge exchange, the secretariat launched a call for case studies, resulting in over 20 diverse contributions that formed the core of the technical sessions. To maintain transparency and provide a lasting resource, all case study presentations and presenter biographies³ have been published on the dedicated workshop webpage.

Financial contributions

- [7] The workshop was delivered through a successful multi-donor funding model. Financial contributions were provided by the governments of Canada, Australia (DAFF), and the United States (USDA) to the IPPC Secretariat, alongside regional partners including IICA, COSAVE, and SAG-Chile. This diverse support was further bolstered by significant in-kind contributions of staff time and technical expertise from all co-organizers and workshop facilitators, with essential operational support provided by the FAO RLC.
- [8] The total expenditure incurred by the IPPC Secretariat for the four-day⁴ event was approximately USD 170,000.⁵ These funds were strategically allocated to cover simultaneous interpretation in English-Spanish and the venue logistics (workshop facilities and related). A significant portion of the budget was dedicated to travel and subsistence support for funded participants from developing NPPOs, ensuring broad geographical representation and inclusive global dialogue.

Workshop programme

- [9] The event featured a high-level opening ceremony with participation from H.E. Ignacia Fernández Gatica, Minister of Agriculture of Chile, and René Orellana, FAO Assistant Director-General for the Latin America and Caribbean Region.
- [10] This event provided a platform for NPPOs, RPPOs, industry representatives, and other interested parties who are considering, or currently developing and implementing, systems approach programs as alternatives to stand-alone pest risk mitigation measures for ensuring phytosanitary security in the trade of plants and plant products.

³ Case studies presentations and bios: <https://www.ippc.int/en/events/webinars/ippc-global-workshop-on-systems-approaches-advancing-understanding-and-implementation-of-integrated-measures-for-pest-risk-management/speakers-and-case-studies/>

⁴ The field-trip was an optional side-event organized by IICA, COSAVE, SAG and “Frutas de Chile”.

⁵ Additional costs were covered by partner organizations.

- [11] The four-day [workshop programme](#) covered a range of topics to promote use of systems approaches in accordance with ISPMs and implementation guidelines. Sessions encompassed identifying specific phytosanitary measures within a systems approach, developing comprehensive bilateral export systems approach programs, sharing experiences from bilateral import case studies, and recognizing and navigating the challenges of establishing multilateral systems approaches.
- [12] The workshop consisted of 25 sessions and participants gained a stronger understanding of IPPC standards, specifically ISPM 14 and related IPPC standards such as ISPM 2, ISPM 5, ISPM 10 ISPM 11, ISPM 13, ISPM 32, ISPM 35, ISPM 36, ISPM 38 and ISPM 46. Moreover, it explored real-world examples and case studies, and engage in hands-on exercises using the [IPPC Systems Approach Assessment Tools](#).
- [13] A series of four 1.5 hour group exercises were delivered over the week. The sessions guided participants through the risk-based methodology developed by the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organization (CSIRO) for designing, assessing and implementing systems approaches. In the first two of these sessions, delegates worked in their table groups to first play the role of exporting nations. Together, they considered a potential trade scenario and selected measures for a systems approach using the Menu of Measures Resource and Risk Reduction Framework. In the third session, the table groups took the perspective of an importing nation to assess the proposed systems approach. The last session focused on developing a multi-lateral systems approach, highlighted the challenges and the opportunities related to working with more than one country in the development of systems approaches. As part of the session on regional perspectives, IICA presented a study carried out among countries in the Americas on the implementation of systems approaches. The study offered clear evidence and insights to help focus future efforts on improving implementation.
- [14] The workshop also provided opportunities to discuss the [IPPC Beyond Compliance tool](#) as well as challenges, lessons learned, and potential revisions to existing systems approach implementation materials, while promoting collaboration across the global phytosanitary community.

Workshop outcomes and recommendations⁶

- [15] The workshop successfully promoted greater understanding of the IPPC's ISPMs related to systems approaches and their practical implementation. In the list below are the main recommendations presented and agreed by the workshop participants.

(1) Conceptual Clarification of ISPM 14

- [16] **Potential action:** The CPM to consider tasking the IPPC Standards Committee (SC) to assess the need to review ISPM 14. If warranted the SC could encourage contracting parties or RPPOs to submit this as a topic proposal during the ongoing IPPC call for topics⁷. This review might include aligning or potentially revising definitions in ISPM 5 (*Glossary of phytosanitary terms*) and identifying structural improvements to the standard including the use of plain language.

[17] **Outcomes expected:**

- Ensure consistency in definitions (ISPM 5)
- Potential revision of ISPM 14
- Identify any improvements

(2) IPPC Observatory study on systems approach

⁶ All activities proposed to address identified gaps and implement recommendations require sufficient funding.

⁷ IPPC Call for Topics: Standards and Implementation: <https://www.ippc.int/en/calls/call-for-topics-standards-and-implementation/>

[18] Potential action:

- Leverage workshop outcomes to inform the proposed IPPC Observatory study on systems approaches.
- If prioritized with sufficient resources, conduct a survey of contracting parties, and potentially industry

[19] Outcomes expected:

- Database of cases.
- Identifying the gaps in critical factors.
- List of tools to help implementation of systems approach. Promote the usage of existing tools.
- Understanding of gaps in training and access to tools (eg Beyond compliance, PRResTO, etc.)
- Better knowledge of the usage and acceptance of systems approaches.
- Develop a data collection framework.

(3) Strengthen Efficacy Data and Traceability

[20] Improve data availability and invest in continuous training and capacity enhancement for stakeholders.

[21] Potential action: Encourage NPPOs and industry partners to expand the availability of efficacy data. Update the 2014 IPPC Observatory study on “Equivalence” to align with modern data standards, integrating it into the proposed new IPPC Observatory study (detailed above).

(4) Improve ISPM 14 Tools

[22] The IPPC Observatory study would identify needs for simplified guidance, practical roadmaps, online tools, and user-friendly materials.

(5) Multi-Stakeholder Collaboration

[23] Foster deeper coordination between public and private sectors for inclusive stakeholder engagement throughout the development and implementation of phytosanitary programs.

(6) Ensure Operational Practicality and Efficiency

[24] Promote the use of risk prioritization, electronic monitoring, and continuous evaluation cycles to ensure that systems approaches remain efficient and adaptable to emerging threats.

(7) Synergy with relevant ISPMs including Commodity Standards under ISPM 46

[25] Ensure robust linkages between general systems approaches and ISPMs, including annexes to ISPM 46 (*Commodity-specific standards for phytosanitary measures*) and other standards (e.g., ISPMs 35, 38, and 39). This will provide countries with clear, standardized options for applying systems approaches as phytosanitary measures for specific commodities or risk pathways.

Communications and media coverage

[26] The workshop has been featured in several social media platforms, including FAO ADG’s remarks, and Chilean social media:

- See also: <https://www.ippc.int/en/news/ippc-global-workshop-charts-new-path-for-systems-approaches-in-plant-health/>
- Press release: <https://www.ippc.int/en/news/ippc-global-workshop-on-systems-approaches-to-advance-pest-risk-management-and-safe-trade/>
- [Reporte Agrícola](#); [Diario Fruticola](#); [FAO RLC](#)

Recommendations

[27] The CPM is invited to:

- (1) *note* the successful delivery and outcomes of the IPPC Global Workshop on Systems Approaches held in Santiago, Chile in December 2025 despite IPPC staff and time constraints.
- (2) *request* the CPM Bureau to work with the IPPC Secretariat to assess and discuss lessons learned of the workshop (from conception to delivery).
- (3) *invite* the Standards Committee (SC) to assess the need for a review of the definitions related to systems approaches and ISPM 14, in alignment with related ISPMs, taking into account the technical gaps identified during the workshop.
- (4) *encourage* contracting parties and RPPOs to utilize the IPPC Call for Topics to submit specific proposals related to the improvement of systems approach standards, if deemed necessary.
- (5) *note* that the Implementation and Capacity Development Committee (IC) and the IC Subgroup on the IPPC Observatory will integrate and reflect the workshop findings when assessing the new IPPC observatory topic proposal submitted by the NPPO of Australia, *Survey on the current regulatory status and current use of phytosanitary systems approaches to facilitate safe trade in plant products* (2025-012).
- (6) *encourage* NPPOs and industry stakeholders to collaborate on the provision of efficacy data and to participate in upcoming IPPC Observatory activities related to this topic, noting that all these activities are pending availability of funds.
- (7) *thank* all contributors and co-organizers IICA, COSAVE and SAG-Chile, the governments of Australia (DAFF) and Canada and the USDA, CSIRO for their financial and technical support; to the FAO Regional Office for Latin America and Caribbean (FAO-RLC) for its in-kind assistance; and to all in-kind staff and technical experts whose dedicated efforts and expertise were instrumental in the development and delivery of this work.

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