



# *REPORT*

Washington, DC  
13-15 September  
2016

## **IRSS Discussion Group – Analyzing the Benefits of Implementing The International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC)**



**Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations**

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## **1. Opening of the meeting**

### **1.1 Welcome to the meeting**

- [1] The meeting was opened by the IPPC Secretariat, who welcomed participants and thanked them for agreeing to contribute to the discussions on analysing the benefits of implementing the IPPC.

### **1.2 Meeting introduction**

- [2] With the new Secretary the IPPC is focusing on different themed areas each year between now and 2020, for 2017 this is plant health and trade facilitation, which this study will contribute to. Under the IPPC's Implementation Review and Support System (IRSS) we have previously only looked at the difficulties of implementing the IPPC, however we also need to focus on successes, to advocate for the IPPC and broaden communication and outreach.

- [3] This IRSS study will seek to identify the benefits at the national, regional and global level, while also considering benefits to different stakeholders in the IPPC community. The different aspects that will be considered will be in relation to the Convention, international standards for phytosanitary measures (ISPMs) and achieving the IPPC strategic objectives, but also with a particular emphasis on the economic benefits of implementing the IPPC and ISPMs at the national level.

### **1.3 Participant introductions**

- [4] The discussion group participants introduced themselves and gave some background on the experience they bring to the meeting.

## **2. Adoption of the agenda**

- [5] The agenda was adopted as presented in Appendix 1.

## **3. Administrative matters**

### **3.1 Participants list**

- [6] The participants list records those attending the discussion group, as presented in Appendix 2.
- [7] Mr John GREIFER of North America submitted his apologies for not being able to attend the meeting, but has offered to provide input at a later stage, as necessary.

### **3.2 Documents list**

- [8] The discussion group did not use a formal documents list, but has made resources available through a shared online platform.

### **3.3 Local information**

- [9] The IPPC Secretariat gave a short overview of meeting logistics and acknowledged the arrangements for staying in Washington are difficult during peak season in a busy city.

## **4. Background**

- [10] The IPPC Secretariat presented an overview of the IPPC to the discussion group.

### **4.1 Purpose of the IPPC**

- [11] The IPPC Secretariat outlined the purpose of the IPPC as described in the vision and mission and expanded in the IPPC Strategic Framework (2012-2019).
- [12] *Vision:* To Protect global plant resources from pests.
- [13] *Mission:* To secure cooperation among nations in protecting global plant resources from the spread and introduction of pests of plants, in order to preserve food security, biodiversity and to facilitate trade.

**[14] IPPC Strategic objectives:**

- (1) protect sustainable agriculture and enhance global food security through the prevention of pest spread;
- (2) protect the environment, forests and biodiversity from plant pests;
- (3) facilitate economic and trade development through the promotion of harmonized scientifically based phytosanitary measures; and
- (4) develop phytosanitary capacity for members to accomplish A, B and C.

**4.2 Activities of the IPPC****[15] The activities of the IPPC Secretariat to support the vision and mission of the IPPC were presented to the discussion group.****A. Governance and strategies**

- The Commission on Phytosanitary Measures (CPM) meets once a year;
- The CPM Bureau and the Finance Committee meets three times a year and the Strategic Planning Group (SPG) once a year;
- The Standards Committee (SC) meets twice a year;
- The Capacity Development Committee (CDC) meets twice a year; and
- The Subsidiary Body on Dispute Settlement (SBDS) meets as required.

**B. Standards setting**

- Prioritization of Topics: Over 10 submissions covering over five topics every biennial;
- Expert Input: Five Expert Panels and several Expert Working Groups;
- Technical Consultation: On specifications, diagnostic protocols (DPs) and ISPMs;
- Standard Adoption: ISPMs, DPs and Phytosanitary treatments are adopted by CPM; and
- Online Comment System: Efficient and user-friendly.

**C. Implementation facilitation**

- Capacity Development: Global projects, including the Standards and Trade Development Facility (STDF) projects 350 and 401, covering over 30 countries;
- Implementation Review Support System (IRSS): Case studies, surveys, technical meetings and implementation support through the IRSS Helpdesk;
- Dispute Avoidance and Settlement System (DASS): Activities as necessary;
- Application of the Phytosanitary Capacity Evaluation tool (PCE); and
- Development of ePhyto: STDF Pilot project.

**D. Integration and support**

- National Reporting Obligations (NRO): Monthly NRO bulletin issued;
- Information Management: Of the new International Phytosanitary Portal (IPP) home page and associated Phytosanitary Resources webpage;
- Communication & Advocacy: IPPC annual themes, IPPC headline and brief news, IPPC seminars, and the International Year of Plant Health (IYPH 2020);
- IPPC Community Activities: Seven IPPC Regional Workshops, and the Technical Consultation of Regional Plant Protection Organizations (TC-RPPOs); and

- Resource Mobilization: IPPC Resource Mobilization Task Force (RMTF), in-kind contribution, IPPC projects and financial donations.

#### E. **International cooperation**<sup>1</sup>

- Technical-related: IAEA, CABI and CIHEAM;
- Trade-related: WTO-SPS and WCO;
- Environment-related: CBD, BLG and UNEP;
- Recourse-related: STDF and EU; and
- FAO-related: AGP, EMPRES and FAO regional & sub-regional offices.

### 4.3 Beneficiaries of the IPPC

[16] The discussion group identified the beneficiaries within the IPPC community by global, regional and national levels.

- a) Global community
- b) Regional level
  - RPPOs
  - Regional Economic Communities (RECs)
- c) National level
  - Contracting parties
  - National Plant Protection Organizations (NPPOs)
  - Plant health practitioners
  - Authorized service providers
  - Value supply chain participants
    - Producers
    - Retailers
    - Processors
    - Marketers
    - Importers
    - Exporters
  - Consumers
  - Research institutions
  - Academia

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<sup>1</sup> Acronyms of international organizations include the following: IAEA (International Atomic Energy Agency); CABI (Centre for Agriculture and Biosciences International); CIHEAM (Centre International de Hautes Études Agronomiques Méditerranéennes); WTO-SPS (World Trade Organization Sanitary and Phytosanitary Agreement); WCO (World Customs Organizations); CBD (Convention on Biological Diversity); BLG (Biodiversity Liaison Group); UNEP (United Nations Environment Programme); STDF (Standards and Trade Development Facility); EU (European Union); AGP (Plant Protection and Protection Diversion of the FAO); EMPRES (Emergency Prevention System of the FAO).

#### 4.4 IPPC within the FAO and other relationships

- [17] In addition to the IPPC community, the IPPC has relationships with international partners.
- a) International framework partners of IPPC (we have a responsibility to)
    - United Nations (UN)
    - Food and Agriculture Organization of the UN (FAO)
    - WTO SPS (three sisters)
  - b) International partners (operational relationships)
    - Technical-related: IAEA, CABI, CIHEAM
    - Trade-related: WTO-SPS, WCO
    - Environment-related: CBD, BLG, UNEP
    - Resource-related: STDF, EU, International development banks
    - FAO-related: AGP, EMPRES as well as several FAO regional & sub-regional Offices

### 5. Benefits of IPPC

- [18] The discussion group recognised there are different types of benefits but agreed that benefits do not need to be defined or analysed, except in the context of the IPPC Strategic Framework (2012-2019). Benefits of the IPPC are effectively defined by the stated purpose of the activities it undertakes.

#### 5.1 Categories of benefits

- [19] In alignment with the IPPC Strategic Framework (2012-2019), the discussion group has identified broad categories that benefits fall under. At a high level this will include the vision of preventing the spread and introduction of pests and an aspect of the mission including international cooperation. Under these three of the IPPC strategic objectives will also be included as benefit categories – food security, environmental protection and trade facilitation.

### 6. Discussion on assessment and evaluation tools

- [20] The discussion group agreed that specific assessment and evaluation tools don't need to be used across all case studies, but instead in each situation an analysis of the benefit should be undertaken using the most appropriate approach with consideration to the evidence.

### 7. Case studies and references

- [21] The discussion group agreed that case studies should be concrete examples of how contracting parties have implemented the Convention and ISPMs and how other contracting parties can learn from these best practices and the benefits that resulted.
- [22] Many case studies were suggested and will be investigated further before a decision is made which to include in the study. The discussion group will provide additional case studies after the meeting, as appropriate.

### 8. Scoping the study

- [23] The discussion group drafted an outline of the study, which is included in Annex 3.
- [24] The expected outputs of the study include a report, a factsheet summarizing the outcomes of the study and a presentation for CPM 12 meeting in 2017.

### 9. Any other business

- [25] No other business was discussed.

## **10. Next steps**

- [26] The discussion group report will be finalized and published on the IPP.
- [27] The expert consultant will continue with further analysis of the benefits of implementing the IPPC and seeking concrete details associated with suggested case studies.
- [28] The discussion group will form a small sub-group to undertake peer review of drafts of the study report.

## **11. Review and adoption of report**

- [29] The discussion group reviewed the draft report of the meeting and adopted it as an accurate account of proceedings.

## **12. Close of meeting**

- [30] The discussion group meeting was closed by the IPPC Secretariat.

**Appendix 1 – Agenda***13-15 September 2016**Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, Liaison Office for North America, 2121 K Street NW, Suite 800B, Washington, DC 20037*

(9:00 - 17:00 on Tuesday through Thursday)

*(Updated 2016-09-08)*

<b>13-15 September 2016 IRSS Discussion Group</b>		
<b>Agenda item</b>	<b>Document No</b>	<b>Presenter</b>
<b>1. Opening of the meeting</b>		
1.1 Welcome to the meeting 1.2 Meeting introduction 1.3 Participant introductions		
<b>2. Adoption of the agenda</b>		
<b>3. Administrative matters</b>		
3.1 Participants list 3.2 Documents list 3.3 Local information		
<b>4. Background</b>		
4.1 Purpose of the IPPC (Convention, ISPMs, strategic objectives) 4.2 Activities of the IPPC 4.3 Stakeholders of the IPPC 4.4 IPPC within the FAO and other relationships		
<b>5. Benefits of IPPC</b>		
5.1 Defining a benefit 5.2 Trade and economic 5.3 Environmental 5.4 Food security 5.5 National capacity 5.6 Other (e.g. Climate change) 5.7 Benefit sharing through partnerships		
<b>6. Discussion on assessment methods</b>		



6.1 Existing methods		
6.2 Experiences of others (international programmes and other organizations)		
<b>7. Case studies and references</b>		
7.1 Case studies		
7.2 References		
7.3 Other available data		
<b>8. Scoping the study</b>		
8.1 Draft outline of the study		
8.2 Expected outputs		
<b>9. Any other business</b>		
<b>10. Next steps</b>		
<b>11. Review and adoption of report</b>		
<b>12. Close of the meeting</b>		

## Appendix 2 – List of Participants

*A check (✓) in column 1 indicates confirmed attendance at the meeting.  
Members not attending have been taken off the list.*

	<b>Name, mailing, address, telephone</b>	<b>Email address</b>
✓	<b>Mr John LAMB</b> Independent Consultant Washington DC <b>UNITED STATES OF AMERICA</b> Tel: (+1) 301 384 4095	<a href="mailto:foodknow@gmail.com">foodknow@gmail.com</a>
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✓	<p><b>Mr Orlando SOSA</b>            Programme Specialist            International Plant Protection Convention            Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations            Viale delle Terme di Caracalla            Rome 00153  <b>ITALY</b>            Tel: (+39) 06570 53613</p>	<p><a href="mailto:Orlando.Sosa@fao.org">Orlando.Sosa@fao.org</a></p>
✓	<p><b>Ms Leanne STEWART</b>            Consultant            International Plant Protection Convention            Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations            Viale delle Terme di Caracalla            Rome 00153  <b>ITALY</b>            Tel: (+39) 06570 53071</p>	<p><a href="mailto:Leanne.Stewart@fao.org">Leanne.Stewart@fao.org</a></p>

## Appendix 3 – Structure of study

### Preface

- a. Purpose
- b. Audience

### 1. Introduction

- a) IPPC and its mission (contracting parties and RPPOs)
  - i. Global context (platform - scalable and resilient)
  - ii. Trade situation/environment
  - iii. Instability (political, geographic and climatic)
- b) Benefits in general
  - i. Nature of benefits (spatial and temporal, sustainability)
  - ii. High level categories

### 2. International cooperation

- a) Principles and their application in international trade (highlight as necessary from ISPM 1)
  - i. Legal platform
  - ii. Harmonization through standards
- b) Capacity development
- c) Mechanism for information exchange (contact point/IPP)
- d) Technical resolution of potential disputes (avoidance)
- e) Forum for active involvement in the decision making process (CPM, SC, calls, etc.)

#### Note:

- *Case studies of relevance for international cooperation, such as the EU support to developing countries globally, including capacity development, funding of meeting participation etc. or South Korea, massive support to IPPC and within region; the China SSC project, more defined geographical scope.*
- *Information exchange example.*

### 3. Types of benefits

- a) Categories of benefits:
  - i. IPPC vision: To Protect global plant resources from pests.

- ii. IPPC mission: International cooperation
- iii. trade facilitation
- iv. environmental protection
- v. food security

*Note:*

- *Include matrix of main categories above against the below IPPC activities (as related to the Convention, ISPMs and tools etc.)*

- *General*
- *Rights and obligations*
- *Principles and policies*
- *Pest status and surveillance*
- *Pest risk analysis and import regulation*
- *Pest risk management*
- *Phyto export system*
- *Diagnostics*
- *Tools e.g. PCE*
- *Guidance and manuals*
- *Technical assistance*

*Note:*

- *Case studies to be included in this section under the outline below*

- *High impact case studies for each category*
- *Representative of regions and sub-regions*
- *Should consider sustainability (continue to invest, a benefit will only be maintained with continued investment)*

b) Categories of stakeholders:

- i. International
- ii. Regional
- iii. RPPOs (points in Enhancement Evaluation to consider)
  - forum for engagement
  - promote closer alignment with the IPPC
- iv. RECS
  - IPPC principles and ISPMs underpin intra-regional trade
- v. National

- Stakeholders as included in the discussion group report

#### **4. Lessons Learnt**

- a) National
  - i. Awareness (political highlighted)
    - Focus on investing in the future of plant health (the investment concept, re sustainability)
    - Implementing the IPPC enhances the capacity of the NPPO to function effectively in the achievement of national objectives and priorities (in each case, use examples of rejections and pest introductions)
    - What if these pests had not been introduced? – relate it back to the case studies
  - ii. Improved return on investment (the case studies illustrate that investment input have positive effects (e.g. trade and economic development) which warrant continued support (e.g. private-public partnerships)
  - iii. Continued innovation, such as research and use of new technologies (e.g. ePhyto). Case studies will illustrate that contracting parties are adaptive.
- b) International (the need for increased support to the IPPC and importance)
  - i. Resource mobilization
  - ii. National support (political)
  - iii. Enhanced resilience (capacity and capability)

#### **5. Implications for future consideration/suggestions/conclusions/recommendations**

- a) Benefit considerations
  - i. A range of benefits for implementing the IPPC (some examples)
  - ii. The nature of the benefits (conceptual, but differ spatially, temporally, why etc.)
  - iii. The need to continue investment for sustainability
  - iv. How to get resources to support investment
  - v. Unrealized benefits (potential benefits with support)
- b) Wider considerations
  - i. Broader implications, the need for flexibility and adaptability to solve emerging issues and what is needed for this to provide support to NPPOs
  - ii. Need to broaden outreach (outside of the existing IPPC community) while maintaining relevance, effective and efficient.
  - iii. Practical side of things for NPPOs to achieve this, such as using the outcomes of this study to advocate for national support and adaptive frameworks and procedures, so they can be responsive to issues
  - iv. Contracting parties need to be more result oriented in terms of their frameworks, policies and procedures, under a system that allows for monitoring and evaluation of activities (e.g. logframes)
  - v. Emphasis that the IPPC Community needs to work together to achieve prevention of pest spread and introduction