



联合国
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Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
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Unies pour l'alimentation
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Продовольственная и
сельскохозяйственная организация
Объединенных Наций

Organización de las
Naciones Unidas para la
Alimentación y la Agricultura

منظمة
الغذية والزراعة
للأمم المتحدة

COMMISSION ON PHYTOSANITARY MEASURES

Eleventh Session
Rome, 4-8 April 2016
Report of Capacity Development activities
Agenda item 10.1
Prepared by the IPPC Secretariat ¹

1. The purpose of this report is to provide a record of the activities of the Capacity Development Committee (CDC) during 2015. This report summarises activities and meetings, detailed information for which is available on the [International Phytosanitary Portal \(IPP\)](#) and Phytosanitary Resources page. In 2015, up to 15 news items related to capacity development activities were posted on the IPP.

2. Following CPM-10 (2015), this has been another busy year for the CDC and the CD team of the IPPC Secretariat. There have been significant changes, both within the Secretariat and in particular within the CD team, with the loss of two staff members.

3. The CDC review was completed in June 2015. The review supported the continued role of the CDC, its business model modality and its role with implementation. The review made a recommendation to broaden the CDC's mandate to cover different areas of implementation. Several recommendations are made for the CPM to decide in terms of the evaluation results (See CPM document 2016/16), and a Terms of Reference and Rules of Procedure for a proposed new committee to replace the CDC are also presented in another paper (see CPM document 2016/18).

4. The CDC is a technical body of the CPM to address capacity development issues and meets twice a year. The 6th and 7th CDC meetings were respectively organized on 1-5 June 2015 in San Jose, Costa Rica and on 30th November to 2nd of December 2015 in Rome, Italy. The CDC work plan

¹ Rev.1 (English only) was processed on 11/02/16 to correct the title in paragraph 18 point 4

is reviewed at each meeting. The national phytosanitary capacity development strategy will be reviewed in 2017. The outcomes and outputs of the CDC activities for 2015 are detailed below.

I. Overview the production of resources

A. *Production of technical manuals and training kits*

5. 2015 has seen the completion of the Standards and Trade Development Facility (STDF) project 350 “Global Phytosanitary Manuals, Standard Operating Procedures and Training Kits” for which the CDC stands as the Steering Committee. Within this project, technical resources were developed in collaboration with experts worldwide and with a number of technical institutions to capture best practices. More than 20 technical resources were produced within the STDF project 350, the ones produced within 2015 are the following:

- 1) Managing relationships with stakeholders manual
- 2) Establishing a NPPO manual
- 3) Operation of a NPPO manual
- 4) Import verification manual
- 5) Export certification manual
- 6) Guide to Delivering Phytosanitary Diagnostic Services
- 7) Plant pest surveillance
- 8) Manual of good practices for participating in the International Plant Protection Convention Commission on Phytosanitary Measures meeting
- 9) Manual of good practices: supplementary materials
- 10) Introduction to the International Plant Protection Convention presentation
- 11) IPPC technical resources presentation
- 12) Three factsheets of the NPPO establishment manual, Plant pest and disease diagnostic manual and Managing relationships with Stakeholders manual.

6. These manual are posted on the Phytosanitary.info webpage².

7. The two related training kits were also produced:

- 1) Establishing a NPPO training kit
- 2) Operation of a NPPO training kit

8. As an outcome of liaison with the FAO Land and Water Division preparation for the proposed International Year of Plant Health, the CDC is overseeing the preparation of an advocacy document on Soil and Plant Health. The objective of this publication is to highlight the links between soils and plant health. The audience is: governments, National Plant Protection Organizations, research institutions, botanic gardens, soil scientists and officers, plant producers and producers of growing media. The publication is expected to be completed by mid-2016.

B. *Production of photographic resources*

9. The CDC was the initiator of the 2015 photo contest “Pests without Borders” which yielded the posting of over 120 pictures of plant pests on the www.phytosanitary.info website. These pictures may be used by IPPC contracting parties in their communication and training material.

10. The photo contest also represented a unique awareness raising opportunity with which the FAO Corporate Communication Division (OCC) and the National Geographic Society were

² All manuals can be consulted at <http://www.phytosanitary.info/ippc-technical-resources>

associated. A selection of the best photographs were uploaded onto the IPPC Facebook account and the 30 finalist photos were printed to build an exhibition and displayed during the CPM-10 (2015) cocktail event. This exhibition was been displayed during the STDF March 2015 cocktail event and at the SPS March 2015 meeting in Geneva.

11. The photo contest is to be repeated in 2016, building on the success of the first contest and seeking improvement and further outreach.

12. In addition to the photo contest, four photographic missions were organized on a shared cost basis with the FAO regional offices to gather pictures on phytosanitary activities in Chile, Costa Rica, Morocco and Senegal. Professional photographers produced more than 400 pictures that can be used by anyone and help illustrate international trade, markets, phytosanitary inspections at import and at export, surveillance and NPPO management activities. These pictures can be viewed through the FAO Mediabase³ (in the search box, type “IPPC”) and requests for their free use may also be submitted.

II. Maintenance of the Phytosanitary Resources (www.phytosanitary.info) page and promotion of resources

A. Management of the Phytosanitary Resources page

13. The Phytosanitary Resources page is actively and constantly managed and updated with news, new IPPC technical resources, contributed resources, photos and events. Eighteen news items related to the CPM side sessions, the SPS trainings and on-going projects were posted in 2015.

14. The Phytosanitary Resources can be contributed by anyone, in any language, and are reviewed by the CDC for consistency and relevance to the Convention and International Standards for Phytosanitary Measures (ISPMs). The IPPC Secretariat issues calls for existing phytosanitary resources that could be made available as submitted or adapted for use. The Secretariat has received hundreds of submissions in response to these calls. In 2015, calls were issued for the collection of the following specific technical resources:

- 1) Software applications (including mobile apps) for pest identification, diagnosis, surveillance and other activities related to plant health
- 2) Plant health risk communication resources
- 3) Technical resources (manuals, standard operating procedures, public outreach materials, projects, etc.) on general and specific pest surveillance

15. The CDC reviews the contributed resources in line with a set of specific criteria. Suitable resources are made available in the Phytosanitary Resources page and in 2015, more than 30 new contributed resources were made available.

16. In 2015 the Phytosanitary Resources page underwent a review to improve usability and to facilitate access to resources. The changes will be applied in 2016.

B. Promotion of resources during events

17. The following technical resources, developed by the IPPC Secretariat, are available on the Phytosanitary Resources page and have been used during trainings and workshops:

³ FAO Mediabase: <https://mediabase.fao.org/bin/UNFAO.dll/go?a=disp&t=home-loader.html&max=0&maxlb=0&si=>

- 1) Presentations during CPM-10 (2015) side sessions on: Establishing a NPPO manual, Plant pest and disease diagnostic manual and Managing Relationships with Stakeholders manual. All interventions are available on the Phytosanitary.info webpage⁴.
- 2) IPPC Regional Workshops and national projects: an exercise was undertaken on the Phytosanitary Resources page during which new resources were presented.
- 3) All manuals and the two training kits were presented and used as training material during the IPPC/International Center for Advanced Mediterranean Agronomic Studies- Mediterranean Agronomic Institute of Bari training session (CIHEAM-MAI Bari) (see below).
- 4) Manuals were used during training of PCE facilitators in Zambia, and during the completion of the PCE in Moldova as training material.
- 5) The Import Verification manual was used at an OIRSA workshop in February.
- 6) The Plant Pest Surveillance manual was used at the Expert Working Group meeting for review of ISPM 6 in September.

III. Oversight of the organization of meetings, workshops, trainings and side sessions

A. CPM Side sessions and training session

18. The CDC overviewed the preparation and delivered the following side sessions for the CPM-10 (2015):.

- 1) A pre-CPM training session on National Reporting Obligations attended by 93 participants, including representatives from 63 countries and 5 RPPOs.
- 2) The manuals on Establishing a NPPO, Plant Pest and Disease Diagnostics and Managing Relationships with Stakeholders were presented during three side sessions which were attended by respectively 80, 80 and 65 participants.
- 3) A side session on the International Plant Sentinel Network was attended by 35 participants.
- 4) A market place was organized on new diagnostic technologies, presenting the LAMP (Loop-mediated isothermal amplification) rapid amplification method, as well as automated insect traps with a dedicated camera remotely sending pictures of the catch for monitoring attended by over 115 participants.
- 5) A market place on banana pests, with presentations on the Banana Bunchy Top Virus in the Sub-Saharan region in Africa and *Fusarium oxysporum* Tropical Race 4 in Latin America and Caribbean Region was attended by over 40 participants.
- 6) A market place on palm tree pests in the Mediterranean area gave an overview on Bayoud disease (*Fusarium oxysporum* f.sp. *albedinis*), Phytoplasma diseases (the lethal yellowing and the Alwijan disease) and on Red Palm Weevil (*Rhynchophorus ferrugineus*) and was attended by 30 participants.

19. During its 6th meeting, the CDC had a brainstorming session to collect ideas for side sessions for CPM-11 (2016). The CDC proposals have been taken into account by the Bureau.

B. Phytosanitary Capacity Development trainings: the week with the CIHEAM-IAM

20. The 1st IPPC/CIHEAM Training Course on “Developing Phytosanitary Capacities” was held on 23-27 November 2015 at the Mediterranean Agronomic Institute of Bari (CIHEAM-IAM Bari), Italy. Fifteen students from the Mediterranean region participated in the Master 1 course on Integrated Pest Management and, as the course was open to NPPOs from the Mediterranean region, three staff

⁴ See all events at <http://www.phytosanitary.info/events>

from the NPPOs from Malta and Turkey also attended. The IPPC Secretariat delivered a series of courses on the recent resources developed which were manuals on: Establishing an NPPO, Operation of an NPPO, Managing relationships with stakeholders, etc.

21. In addition, general presentations on the IPPC, ISPMs and the activities of NPPOs alternated with interactive exercises. It is anticipated that cooperation on this training course will increase in the future. This initiative fits very well into the new strategic partnership signed on the 23rd of October 2015 between FAO and CIHEAM aiming at strengthening the livelihoods of rural communities in the Mediterranean region. This training represented a trial for testing all new resources.

IV. Project management and formulation

A. Training of Phytosanitary Capacity Evaluation (PCE) Facilitators

22. The CDC is the Steering Committee for the STDF project 401 “Training of Phytosanitary Capacity Evaluation (PCE) Facilitators”. The PCE is an evaluation tool designed by the IPPC Secretariat that allows a country to assess the capacities of its existing phytosanitary system in order to identify and address shortcomings. Applying the PCE is therefore a crucial element to strategic planning, which can assist national plant protection organizations (NPPOs) to prioritize their activities and develop appropriate national phytosanitary action plans and strategies. The aim of the project is to have a pool of PCE facilitators in order to meet an increased demand for the application of the PCE worldwide.

23. In 2015, 66 candidates were selected from 160 applicants based on competencies and psychological tests. These 66 participants will receive two weeks of training in 2016 on different aspects of the application of the PCE, and those passing the tests will have to apply the PCE in selected countries. The training programme and implementation plan of the project have been considered and supported by the CDC.

B. Implementation pilot project on surveillance

24. An implementation pilot project on surveillance was approved by CPM 10 (2015). A concept note for the funding of the pilot project on surveillance was prepared in a joint effort by all the units of the Secretariat and submitted to the Bureau and potential donors. An update of this project is presented as a CPM paper (CPM 2016/14).

C. Training of trainers

25. The CDC was very supportive of the concept note developed for a future training of trainers project. This project would encompass the development of relevant sustainable training courses and technical resources in plant protection for various stakeholders, the coordinated implementation to support European and Mediterranean countries as a pilot area and the reproduction of the courses and material developed.

26. Resources and financial support are currently being sought for this project

D. Other projects and PCE applications

27. Further to the projects and activities overviewed by the CDC, the capacity development unit is involved in FAO and other projects. For instance, field projects were completed in 2015 in the Comoros and Palestine and were initiated in Moldova, and in Africa under the Africa Solidarity Trust Fund Project (including Botswana, Madagascar, Mozambique, Namibia, Zambia and Zimbabwe)

28. The CPM is invited to:

- 1) *Note* the 2015 report of activities in capacity development.
- 2) *Request* contracting parties and other organizations to provide active contribution of technical resources for the Phytosanitary.info page.
- 3) *Request* support of the entire phytosanitary community to consider implementing the IPPC National Phytosanitary Capacity Development Strategy⁵.

⁵ IPPC National Phytosanitary Capacity Development Strategy: <https://www.ippc.int/en/publications/76/>