

ePhyto Factsheet #8

The Generic National System

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What is the ePhyto system?

The ePhyto system consists of two main elements, production/receipt of ePhytos and a mechanism for exchange. The production and receipt of ePhytos is part of a national system. The exchange may be done in two ways, either directly between National Plant Protection Organizations (NPPO) referred to as point-to-point exchange or by way of a central hub referred to as single point exchange. To assist developing countries which do not have a national electronic system for export certification and the receipt of ePhytos, a generic national system is being developed for use.

What is a national system?

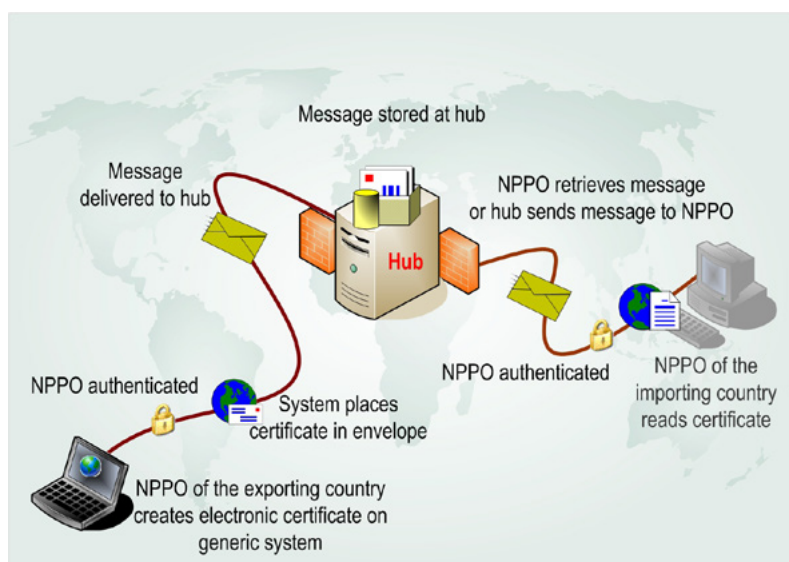
A national system enables countries to produce, send and receive electronic phytosanitary certificates according to the Appendix 1 of ISPM 12.

What is the Generic National System?

A generic national system is a basic system to produce and receive ePhytos which allows countries without a national system or with limited information technology to participate in ePhyto exchanges. A generic system may be envisioned to be available through the web with authenticated access.

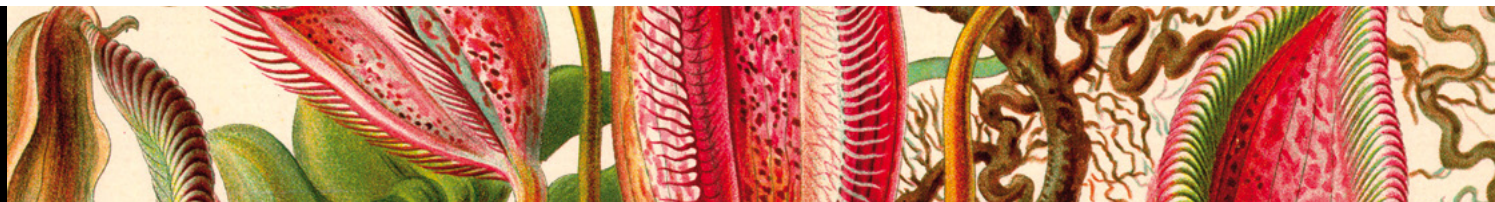
Business rules for the Generic National System

- Data entry for export certification
- Defined exchange mechanism and a standardized UN/CEFACT schema
- Issuance/authorization of an ePhyto
- Sending of an ePhyto
- Printing of the sent certificate data on paper
- Receipt of ePhytos
- Ability to check the authenticity of an ePhyto after receipt
- Extraction of the data from an ePhyto
- Printing of the received certificate data on paper
- Ability to store ePhytos for later reference
- Connected to the hub to facilitate certificate transfer
- Reporting



Figure

Transmission of an ePhyto



When can your country participate?

The hub and the generic national system will first be tested by a limited number of countries. These countries will have to contribute extra resources to the testing and evaluation of the first version of the hub and generic national system. This is particularly true of countries participating in the generic national system. Pilot testing is expected to occur in the second half of 2016. The hub and the generic national system will be adjusted following the pilot, if necessary.

In 2017, the hub and the generic system will be available for wider use and gradually more countries will be able to participate. Countries that have a national system to produce or receive ePhytos can participate in the hub once they have adjusted their system to the requirements of the hub. Countries without a national system will be invited to gradually start participation once the pilot and reconfiguration is complete. The number of countries that can participate in 2017 depends on the resources available and also on the availability of the system and training material in different languages. Within the context of the STDF project, the participation of countries in 2017 will be supported by training material developed in different languages, by in-country training and by assisting countries with arranging necessary infrastructure. Gradually more and more countries can participate to truly create a Global ePhyto Solution.

Additional resources

The IPPC website has a lot of information on the history of ePhyto development – use the links below to find out more information:

- [IPPC ePhyto – home page](#)
- [IPPC ePhyto – Steering Group and recent developments](#)
- [IPPC ePhyto – codes and schema](#)

Contact us

ePhyto Steering Group

International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC)

Viale delle Terme di Caracalla, 00153 Rome, Italy

Tel: +39 06 5705 4812 | Fax: +39 06 5705 4819

Email: ippc@fao.org | Web: www.ippc.int