

# Plant health standards and safe trade facilitation: Africa's perspective

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## Background (1/3)

### **African economies rely on agriculture, which:**

- Contributes 4-27% of gross domestic product
- Generates 80% of export earnings
- Provides 60% employment
- Provides a large share in poverty and hunger reduction
- Boosts inter-African trade and investments



## Background (2/3)

**African countries do export to other regions agricultural commodities either as:**

- raw materials or
- processed which include: tobacco, coffee, tea, dhal, chick peas, common beans, groundnuts, bambara nuts, fruits, vegetables, ornamentals, cocoa, timber just to mention a few.



## Background (3/3)

- African agricultural exports have increased over the decade.
- These commodities which are exported to other regions have increased over time.
- These meet the standards set by the Standards Setting Organizations of the **World Trade Organization Agreement on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures (WTO SPS)**
- For plant health, the WTO SPS Agreement has recognized the **international standards, guidelines and recommendations developed under the auspices of the IPPC Secretariat**



# Importance of plant health standards and safe trade facilitation

## International plant health standards (ISPMs)

- Of the 96 adopted ISPMs, 87 of them are directly trade-related
- Representing 90% of the adopted ISPMs



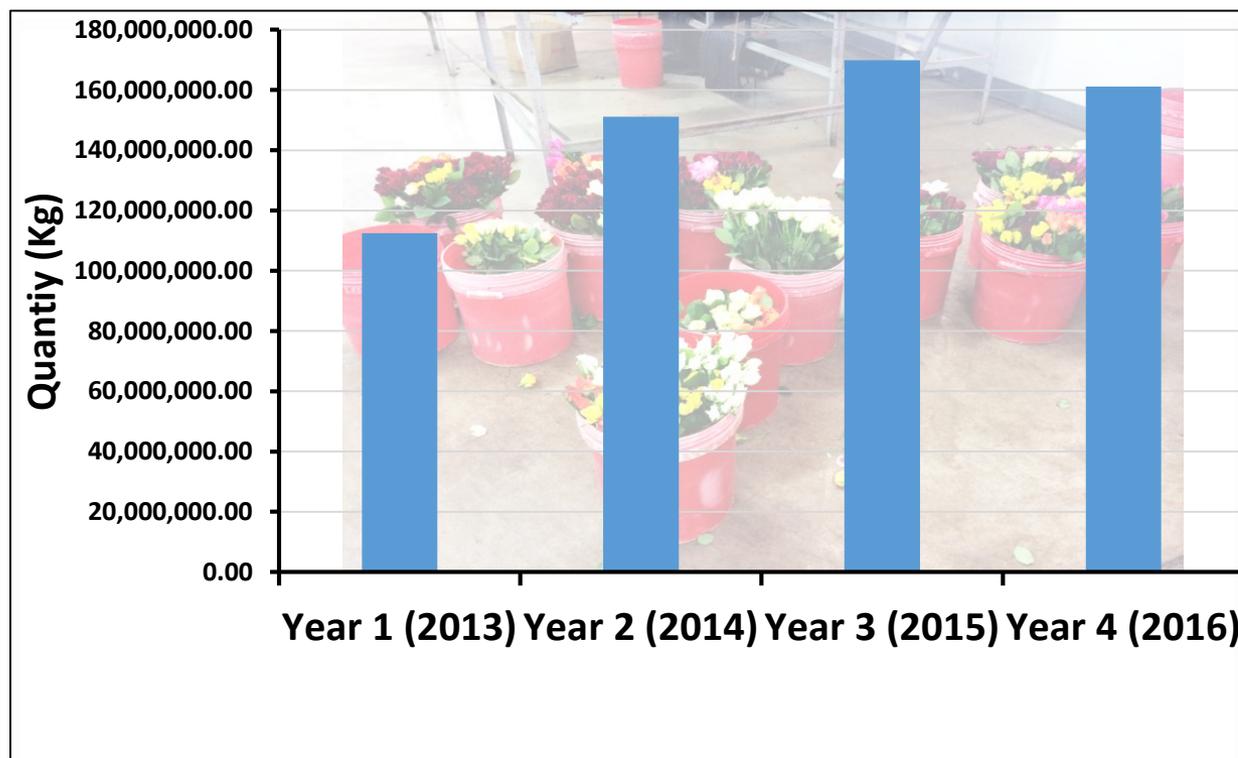
# Importance of plant health standards and safe trade facilitation

**Examples of standards that contribute to safe trade facilitation include:**

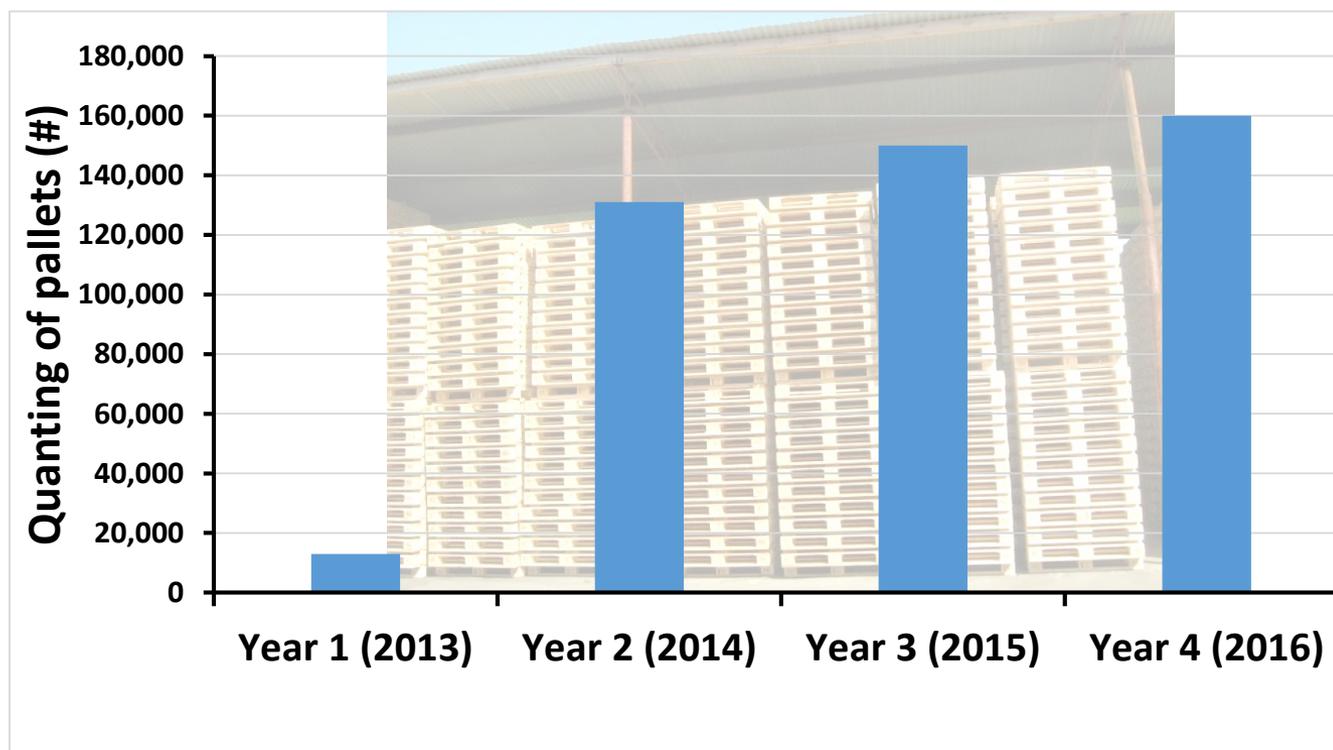
- ISPM 15, used by Malawi for wood packaging material
- ISPM 12 (phytosanitary certificates) and its Appendix 1 (ePhyto), used by Kenya to export cut flowers to the Netherlands



# Quantity of cut flowers exported over the four year period of 2013, 2014, 2015 and 2016 for Kenya



# Quantity of wood packaging exports over a four year period of 2013, 2014, 2015 and 2016 for Malawi



## Way forward

- International plant health standards have contributed greatly to trade facilitation in Africa
- ISPM 15 and ISPM 12 (ePhyto) are some examples of the standards that have been in use
- It is important therefore for African countries to be active in the development and implementation of International plant health standards



# THANKS FOR LISTENING

