IPPC Thematic Year for Plant Health and Capacity Development (2019)

1. Background

1. The IPPC Strategic Framework (2012-2019), establishes four strategic objectives. The following four thematic years have been established to match these objectives:

* [2016 Plant Health and Food Security](https://www.ippc.int/en/themes/food-security/)
* [2017 Plant Health and Trade Facilitation](https://www.ippc.int/en/themes/trade-facilitation/)
* [2018 Plant Health and Environmental Protection](https://www.ippc.int/en/themes/environment-protection/)
* [2019 Plant Health and Capacity Development](https://www.ippc.int/en/themes/capacity-development/)

2. Annual Theme on Plant Health and Capacity Development (2019)

1. Capacity development is essential for the implementation of the International Plant Protection Convention, ISPMs and CPM Recommendations. In the IPPC community, capacity development activities have been undertaken vigorously such as applying the Phytosanitary Capacity Evaluation (PCE), developing the IPPC Guides and Training materials and providing trainings and workshops including the IPPC Regional Workshops. The IPPC National Phytosanitary Capacity Development Strategy[[1]](#footnote-1) was also developed to be a basis to help governments establish phytosanitary capacity development priorities and investments.
2. Most of these activities have been based on project proposals from contracting parties and partner organizations. Under the guidance of the Commission on Phytosanitary Measures (CPM), the Implementation and Capacity Development Committee (IC) is currently working on strengthening the phytosanitary capacity of contracting parties.
3. For the previous thematic years, the CPM had relevant special topics sessions for annual themes and the IPPC Secretariat developed **thematic webpages** on the IPP ([www.ippc.int](http://www.ippc.int)) and organized **IPPC seminars** on the annual themes, as well as attending relevant side events at international meetings. In addition, annual factsheets were developed (on IPPC, on food security, on trade facilitation and on environmental protection, all available on the IPP media kit page[[2]](#footnote-2)).
4. For 2019, the IPPC Secretariat plans to promote the annual theme of Plant Health and Capacity Development taking into account the current trends and highlighting importance of collaboration with partner organizations through:

* CPM-14 (2019) Special topics session on Plant Health and Capacity Development
* IPPC Seminar during SPG meeting 2019 in collaboration with the FAO unit in charge of capacity development
* Publication of a factsheet on the IPPC Community’s contribution to the development of plant health capacity
* The IPPC Secretariat will develop and populate a web page on the IPP, with the aim to disseminate information related to the links between plant health and capacity development (<https://www.ippc.int/en/themes/capacity-development/> )
* The IPPC Secretariat will attend meetings/workshops organized by capacity development-related organizations
* The IPPC Secretariat will develop a catalogue of IPPC Guides and Training materials with case studies of using these materials at national level
* Starting work on updating of the IPPC National Phytosanitary Capacity Development Strategy in line with the IPPC Strategic Framework 2020-2030 which is expected to be formally adopted in 2020

1. The SPG 2018 discussed some ideas to promote the annual theme of Plant Health and Capacity Development. The ideas provided from the participants included:

* Gathering information on implementation and capacity development activities from regions and publicizing them
* Holding a video conference on capacity development a couple of times during the year
* Producing a video with interviews of NPPOs on how capacity development in plant health help them

1. In addition, at the SPG meeting, the IPPC Secretary presented his ideas on promoting the thematic year including organizing a side event during the period of a SPS Committee meeting and delivering a presentation in the Regional Workshops as well as keynote address on Plant Health and Capacity Development at the CPM-14 (2019).
2. The TC-RPPO is invited to

* *Discuss* ideas to celebrate and disseminate information for the theme year on Plant Health and Capacity Development (2019)
* *Encourage* CPs to plan and organize national & regional events and inform the IPPC Secretariat so they can be promoted*.*

1. IPPC National Phytosanitary Capacity Development Strategy: <https://www.ippc.int/en/publications/11/> [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. IPP Media kit page: <https://www.ippc.int/en/media-kit> [↑](#footnote-ref-2)