



An evaluation tool to review and support the implementation of the International Plant Protection Convention and its standards

The generous support of the European Commission has allowed the Implementation Review and Support System (IRSS) to function on a project basis since 2011.

The IRSS is an evaluation tool of the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC) that focuses on identifying contracting parties' challenges and successes for implementation of the Convention and International Standards for Phytosanitary Measures (ISPMs). Identifying challenging areas as well as best practices provides vital input in the strategic development of phytosanitary technical resources and tools to support implementation at the national, regional and global levels.

The objective of the IRSS is to facilitate and promote the implementation of the Convention and ISPMs, while contributing to the objectives of the IPPC Strategic Framework.



The IRSS seeks to assist contracting parties by understanding their implementation challenges and opportunities through the following activities:

- ◆ Performs surveys and convenes meetings to gather information on implementation of the Convention and ISPMs
- ◆ Seeks to identify emerging issues related to plant health, food security, climate change, environmental protection and biodiversity and safe trade facilitation
- ◆ Conducts analytical studies on key issues and recommends ways to improve implementation
- ◆ Provides support to contracting parties seeking help to implement the Convention and ISPMs, through the IRSS Helpdesk
- ◆ Provides contracting parties with technical assistance to avoid disputes
- ◆ Collaborates with IPPC Secretariat units, Regional Plant Protection Organizations (RPPOs) and other organizations to enhance implementation
- ◆ Produces a summary on implementation status every three years

Highlights of the IRSS second cycle (2014-2017)

The work conducted during the second cycle of the IRSS covers a range of implementation review and support activities, the highlights are included below:

- ◆ Update of the IRSS Helpdesk
- ◆ Conduct of the second IPPC General Survey
- ◆ Global scanning for emerging issues in plant health
- ◆ Establishment of the IPPC Monitoring and Evaluation framework
- ◆ Analysis of potential donors to support contracting parties
- ◆ Informed the revision of ISPM 6: *Guidelines for surveillance*
- ◆ An evaluation of Biosecurity approaches internationally and in various countries
- ◆ A review of the issue of Diversion from Intended Use
- ◆ An analysis of the benefits of implementing the IPPC

The IRSS Helpdesk

The IRSS Helpdesk provides implementation support. The Helpdesk is an online platform to assist contracting parties in their implementation of the Convention and ISPMs and includes:

- ◆ Question and Answer Forum, **open to all plant health professionals seeking support on issues relating to implementation**
- ◆ Frequently Asked Questions, **provides a set of questions and answers to assist contracting parties with general and specific enquiries about implementation**
- ◆ Phytosanitary Resources webpage, **links to the catalogue of technical resources that assist contracting parties in implementation**



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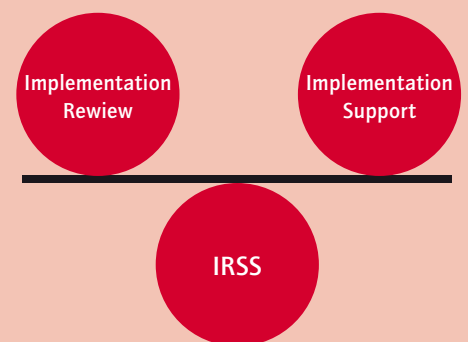
The IRSS is implemented on a three-year cycle and involves two components:

Implementation Review System

seeks to identify the challenges that limit implementation of the IPPC and ISPMs and successes of implementation, through surveys, desk studies and other tools

Implementation Support System

helps contracting parties address gaps in implementation of the IPPC and ISPMs by facilitating specific actions or activities to improve implementation



The Helpdesk is for you to share your expertise, challenges, successes and resources. Visit it at: <https://www.ippc.int/en/irss/helpdesk/>