

Outline of COSTA RICA report for the IPPC High-level Symposium on Cooperation of the Phytosanitary Measures among the Chinese Initiative “One Road” Countries to be held 25-28 September 2018, Nanning, Guangxi, China

1. Background information on agriculture and organizational arrangements for Plant protection and NPPO

Costa Rica



Area: 51100 km².

Governmental System: Republican. 3 Legal Powers: Legislative, Judicial, Executive

Population: 5 million people

Main production: *Agriculture* (46% participation in market): banana, pineapple. *Services* (development of tools of information technology, medical supplies and instruments)

Main plant importation:

Yellow Maize: 151 million USD

Soy: 127 Million USD

Other Grains (Wheat, Rice, Beans-*Phaseolus vulgaris*, sorghum,): 121 Million USD

Main countries we import from: USA  Mexico  Nicaragua 

Main plant Exports:

Bananas 884 million USD (1st place)


Pineapples: 665 million USD (3rd place)

Coffee: 300 Million USD

Main export markets: USA,  Belgium,  Netherlands 

[Source: INEC, Costa Rica. Unidad de Estadísticas Económicas, 2017]

Structure of trade: Costa Rica is an open economy with a significant number of International Treaties subscribed such as: WTO, Free Trade Agreements (European Union, USA, Colombia, Chile, Canada, Central America, Peru, China, Singapur, CAFTA-DR, Panama, Dominican Republic, CARICOM, Free Trade European Association, etc..)

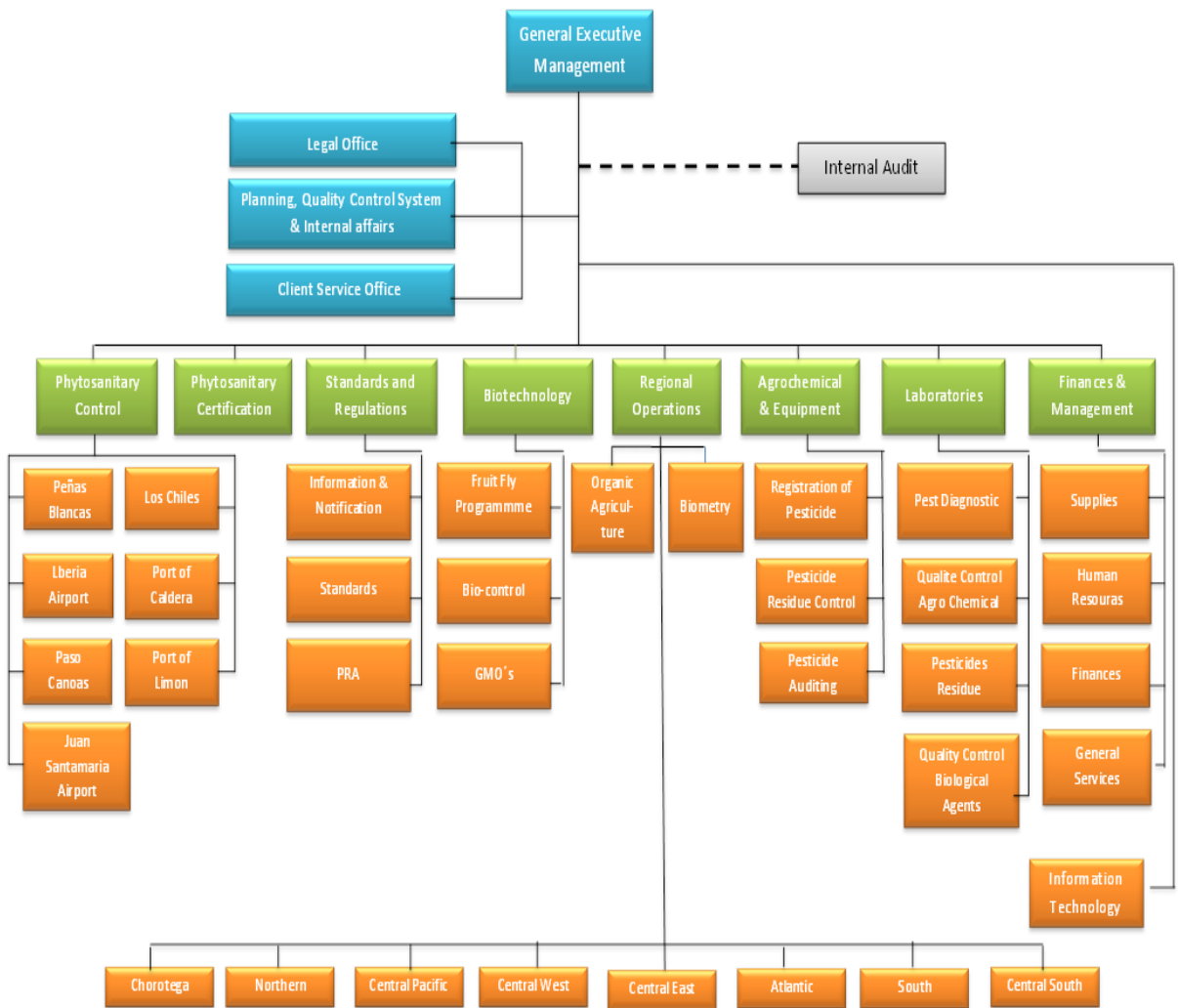
Ports of Entry: Total 7  2 airports, 2 maritime, 3 terrestrial



Points of Entry



Organigram of Phytosanitary State Service (SFE)



2. Phytosanitary legal framework and list of regulated pests

The Phytosanitary State Service (SFE) abides by Law 7664 of 1997, which establishes responsibilities and obligations in regards to plant protection. Additionally, the law also includes provisions related to registration of pesticides, organic agriculture and modified living organisms.



Legal Framework



Phytosanitary Protection Law No.7664 (1997)

The objectives of this law are as follows:

- a) To protect the vegetables from damages caused by pests.
- b) To avoid and prevent the introduction and dissemination of pests that threaten food safety and the economic activity sustained in agricultural production.
- c) To regulate the combat of pests in vegetables.
- d) To foster integrated management of pests within sustainable development, as well as other productive agricultural methodologies that allow pests control without deterioration to the environment.
- e) To regulate the use and management of chemicals, biological or related substances and equipment to be used in agriculture: similarly, its registration, importation, quality and residues, while at the same time, endeavoring to protect human health and the environment.
- f) To avoid phytosanitary measures from becoming obstacles

3. Overview of cases of surveillance, non-compliance and manage of regulated pests

The SFE has a Department in charge of implementing activities in surveillance.

The surveillance is based on the main quarantine pests of the highest economically important crops, such as: Banana (*Fusarium oxysporum* f sp *cubense* R4T), pineapple (*Fusarium guttiforme*), oil palm (*Rhyncophorus palmarum/red ring nematode*), citrus (HLB, *Guignardia citricarpa*), rice (*Trogoderma granarium*, *Burkholderia glumae*-Present), coffee (*Hemileia vastatrix*-Coffee rust-Present), Potato (Candidatus *Liberibacter solanacearum*- Zebra chip), Melon (*Acidovorax citrulli*-PNCR).

The list of regulated pests is published and updated in the IPP yearly.

When regulated non-compliances and pests are detected, an administrative resolution is issued as well as the notification of non-compliance addressed to the IPPC Contact Point.

4. Information on emerging issues on Phytosanitary Measures

Tuta absoluta (tomato leaf mining moth): probably misidentified as *Keiferia lycopersicella* in early 70s. Survey conducted in second decade of 2000, identified the pest as *Tuta absoluta*. Immediate trade restrictions (stringent phytosanitary measures, including prohibition) in most of Central American countries and the USA. Up to now our NPPO together with exporting industry is unable to meet the import requirements nor to agree on equivalent measures aiming to comply with Adequate Level of Protection of importing countries.

5. Identification of opportunities and challenges in Phytosanitary Measures

The opportunity for Costa Rica is to be able to insert in international trade supported by technically justified measures provided by the IPPC. Also obtaining technical cooperation and exchange of information and experiences through different available communication tools and fora (documents, workshops, participation in technical committees of related international organizations, etc.)

On the other hand due to the significant increase in trade among countries around the world as well as people travelling to a wide range of touristic destinations, turns out to be a challenge since the high difficulty for maintaining the phytosanitary *status quo*.

6. Suggestions on international, Regional and bilateral cooperation in Phytosanitary Measures among the Chinese Initiative “the Belt and One Road” countries

Please identify areas for cooperation in phytosanitary measures:

- **To be conducted by the IPPC Secretariat:** maintain projects on implementation of ISPMs (capacity building) including development of manuals, availability of technical resources, improved PCE tool and on line courses (similar to WTO)
- **To be conducted by the Chinese Ministry of Agriculture:** research to support Innovative technology tools for pest diagnostics, pest detection, pest surveillance (e.g. drones), new and more efficient trapping devices for fruit flies, phytosanitary treatments, control methods for pests
- **To be conducted by the One Road One Belt countries:** implementation of e-Phyto, improvement of PRA techniques (design and development of IT tools to obtain more objective probabilistic approaches on pest evaluation, deep understanding of related ISPMs and how they can be implemented), improvement of NRO (advocacy, export certification, identify and implement a pilot project on a commodity standard).