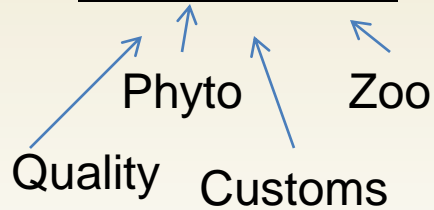


Single-Windows and other approaches to cooperate for efficient trade:



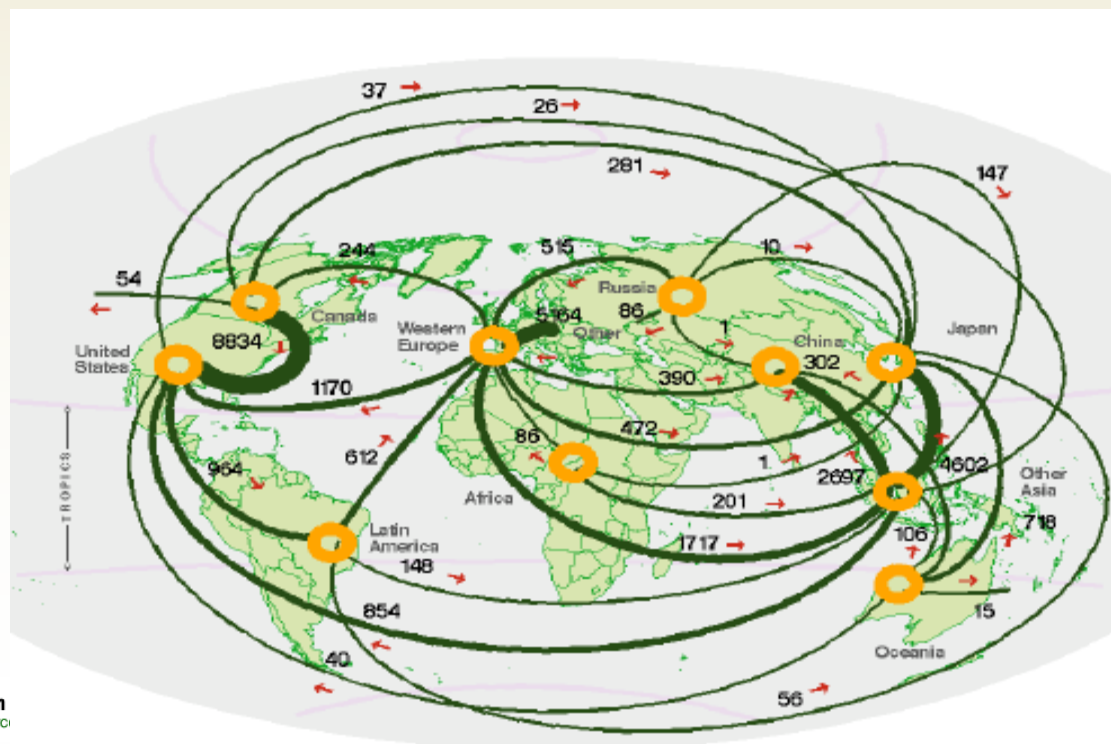
the NPPO role to minimize risk

IPPC Secretariat
Regional IPPC Workshop

Date
Venue

Global Trade

- Our world depends on trade – for economic growth, food security, and more
- Trade is growing in volume and complexity



What certifications are needed?

- Imagine all of the processes that commodities go through before they arrive
 - Examples: customs, animal health, plant health, food safety, fumigation certificates (in addition to phytosanitary certificates), CITES and many more
 - Historically each certificate required going through a separate process – these are “multiple window” systems

Multiple Windows

- How many “windows” need to be visited to import into your country? Or to export?
- How long does this take?



Phytosanitary
Certificate



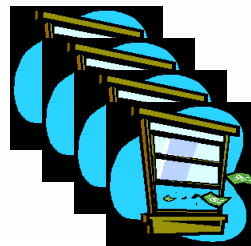
Zoo Certificate



Quality
certificates



Customs



...and sometimes many more!

Multiple Windows: the Challenge

- Global **average**: 4 documents needed for export of commodities (ranges from 2 – 13)
- **Overlaps** and **gaps** between the many agencies and ministries
- Logistical **inefficiencies** are bad for business
- Inefficiency **increases prices** for consumers
- These complex processes can be a significant **barrier to trade** (WTO, WCO and WB are interested in reducing this)

What is a “single window”? (1/2)

- Approach to **bring together the many ministries and agencies** involved in export certification and import verification
- Goals include:
 - **reduce duplication of work (such as inspections)**
 - **reduce delays to import/export of goods**
 - **avoid unnecessary increases in costs for trade**

What is a “single window”? (2/2)

- **Each country's approach would be different**
- Factors to consider include:
 - trade priorities
 - governance structure
 - extent of high-level commitment for cooperation between ministries and agencies
 - regulatory concerns
 - changes in systems should **not increase phytosanitary risk** – this remains the **NPPO responsibility**

Options for Integrative Approaches

- \$
- national
- Joint inspections between national authorities
 - Single windows – one-stop center for export and imports documents and inspections
 - Regional one-stop border posts (import/export inspections take place at the same time)
 - Integration of manual or digital certification systems (within countries and between countries)
- \$\$\$\$
- international

Single Window: Not An Open Window

- **Efficient** trade is **important**, but so is **safe** trade.
- Remember **NPPO** role: **protect plants from pests**
- Maintaining **science-based regulations** is essential to ensure that **pest risks to plants** are minimized.
- **NPPO responsibility** to protect plants from **pests remains** even in single window systems

Why discuss this here?

- **Emerging issue** identified by the IPPC Capacity Development Committee, discussed by CPM Bureau
- Highly-attended side session at **CPM-8** (2013)
- Opportunities to **build on regional experiences** with this issue at the regional IPPC workshops
- **Key issue:** maintaining relevant plant protection measures in context of integration

Challenges ^(1/2)

- **Limited awareness** among **NPPOs** and other SPS authorities of international efforts at trade facilitation and customs modernization.
- Customs do not always consult SPS authorities early in the discussion on how to modernize border controls – their focus is on speed
- SPS measures are complex. Specific scientific and managerial capacity required – **NPPO involvement is key**

Challenges (2/2)

- **Policy makers typically think of customs** when they think of regulating trade – make the role of the NPPO clearly known
- In many cases integration efforts are **led by customs** agencies, supported by **trade** ministries
- Involvement of SPS agencies is key but may not be sought out
- Encourage **NPPOs to stay informed** of these efforts and **participate actively**

Factors for Success - Sustainability

- Need for cooperation and **political will** at a **high level**, and including high-level commitment to phytosanitary issues
- Importance of a **stable governance and management context** for this model to succeed
- Challenge for NPPOs to continue to collect **fees for services rendered** if fee collection is consolidated – a plan for sustainable financing should be developed

Factors for Success – Technical (1/2)

- **Risk priorities:** Ensure that **plant health risks** are incorporated into determinations of priority **risk commodities** and **authorized operators**
 - Customs typically interprets risk as weapons, controlled substances, etc and may evaluate risk based on a company's past performance
 - For NPPOs, risk relates to the commodity and its place of origin, not the company
 - Determining risk categories should be a deep conversation at a national level with NPPO involvement
- **Plant health:** Ensure that plant health issues are not considered the same as food safety or quality issues

Factors for Success – Technical (1/2)

- **Strength under pressure:** Ensure that inspections and other **appropriate phytosanitary measures still take place** despite the increased emphasis on fast turnaround times, and that NPPOs have the power to slow the process if needed to regulate risk appropriately
- **Need for appropriate training** if inspections are not conducted by the NPPO

Opportunities - investments

- This can be an **opportunity to improve** and take a “whole of government” approach to reduce duplication and fill gaps
- Many **donors are interested** in supporting these initiatives (see IRSS Help Desk for a list of possible donors for IPPC-related issues)
- Key to have strong NPPPO involvement in these initiatives – ensure that this opportunity to change **includes the NPPO's important role** of protecting plants

Opportunities - cooperation

- **WTO needs assessments** - over 100 have been completed leading to national trade facilitation task forces – **is your NPPO involved in the task force?**
- **Regional cooperation** can be useful for trade taking place between neighbors
- Context of “trade facilitation” offers many opportunities to **strengthen trade systems**
- **NPPOs still responsible** for protecting introduction and spread of pests

Conclusion

- The global trade system is **changing** and countries' systems will **adapt**
- **NPPOs** need to adapt to reality while maintaining their **responsibilities**
- **Pest risk to plants** still a central concern
- **Preventing pest** intro and spread remains the **NPPO's responsibility** – stay involved in the import/export processes even if they are changing in your country!

Discussion

- **Is integration of customs and other regulatory agencies being discussed in your country?**
 - What would work well? What would challenges be?
 - How can you ensure that plant pest risks are minimized in an integrated system?
- **If integration is in place, what are your experiences?**
- **Is your NPPO involved in your country's trade facilitation task force?**

Thank you!

IPPC Secretariat

IPP: www.ippc.int

Phytosanitary Resources: www.phytosanitary.info

Helpdesk: <http://irss.ippc.int/helpdesk/>

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