The TFA and Implementing ePhyto

The 3rd IPPC Global Symposium on ePhyto

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Outline of the presentation

How does the implementation of ePhyto fit with the Trade Facilitation Agreement (TFA)

NPPOs and national initiatives on the TFA

Implementation blueprint

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Why implement ePhyto?

National efficiencies

Improved security

Simplification of information flow between traders and government

Options for data transfer and data sharing

Expedited clearance of commodities

Better evaluation of risks

Ability to address certification problems in advance of commodity arrival

Ability to prioritize activities in advance of commodity arrival

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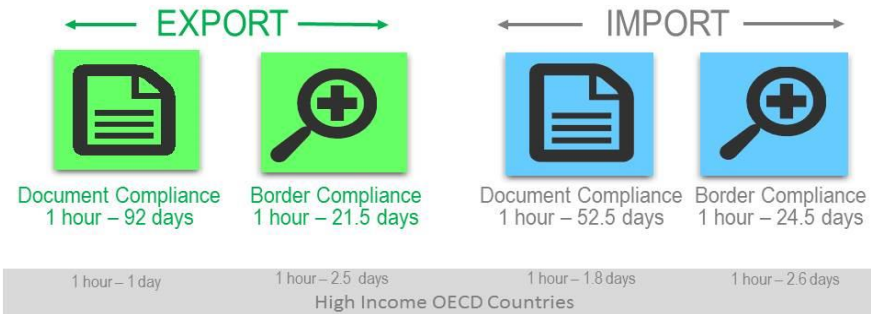
ePhyto and border clearance

Implementation of ePhyto is an opportunity for NPPOs evaluate their overall border clearance activities

Provides countries with a tool which **MAY** improve national border clearance procedures

Provides a tool that NPPOs can use to implement more targeted risk-based measures

Trade transaction time

•Trade transactions vary widely from country to country. In 2017 these transactions involved

← EXPORT →   ← IMPORT →

Document Compliance
1 hour – 92 days

Border Compliance
1 hour – 21.5 days

Document Compliance
1 hour – 52.5 days

Border Compliance
1 hour – 24.5 days

1 hour – 1 day   1 hour – 2.5 days   1 hour – 1.8 days   1 hour – 2.6 days

High Income OECD Countries

Source: World Bank 'Doing Business" project, 2018

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Objectives of the WTO TFA

Expedite movement, release & clearance of goods

Improve cooperation between customs/other authorities

Enhance technical assistance and capacity building

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	Benefits for Exporters	Benefits for Government
Transparency + Fairness	Predictability	Better compliance
	Reduced time/costs	Better quality decisions
Good Governance	Reduced costs	Better compliance
	Reduced delays	More effective government
	Reduced complexity	More efficient government
Modernization	Reduce clearance times and costs	Align with modern business practice
		More effective government
		More efficient government

ePhyto benefits and TFA

Although paperless certification is not a specific component of the TFA, its implementation achieves some of the objectives

Implementation of paperless SPS certification is one of the least implemented initiatives (~25%)

ePhyto benefits moreover address quarantine concerns with trade facilitation

- Better identification of risk
- Targeting in advance of arrival
- Better use of resources based upon risk

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TFA implications for plant health

Direct correlation between implementation of the TFA and reduced trade costs/increased trade

- Important in improving agriculture
- Lives of farmers
- Supporting women...

An opportunity to improve and take a "whole of government" approach to reduce duplication and fill gaps

An opportunity to leverage plant health initiatives within the context of TFA

- Working with National Trade Facilitation Committees

Many donors are interested in supporting TFA initiatives

- http://www.tfafacility.org/implementation-support

Context of "trade facilitation" offers many opportunities to strengthen trade systems and improve economies

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Factors critical to the success of implementation

Political will/support

Project plan

Adequate funding

Thorough analysis of business changes required to support the future state

Legislation.

Software/hardware

Technical tools

Strategy for change management

Developing the plan
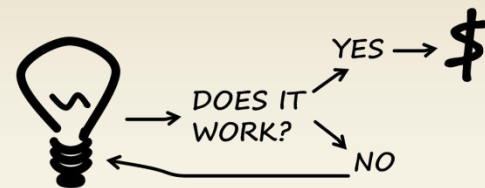
Concept/feasibility analysis

Stakeholder identification

- Who should be involved?

Business process analysis of current vs. future states

- Current work flows vs. future work flows
- How will the ePhyto system connect to existing IT systems?
- How will stakeholders be impacted by the changes?
- Who will address the potential impacts to stakeholders...

Cost/benefit analysis

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Outputs

Policy support documents to advance governance/financial commitment

Opportunity to build links with to other national trade facilitation initiatives

- Cost savings through synergies

Communication tools that address the issues of stakeholders

- Tools to support change management
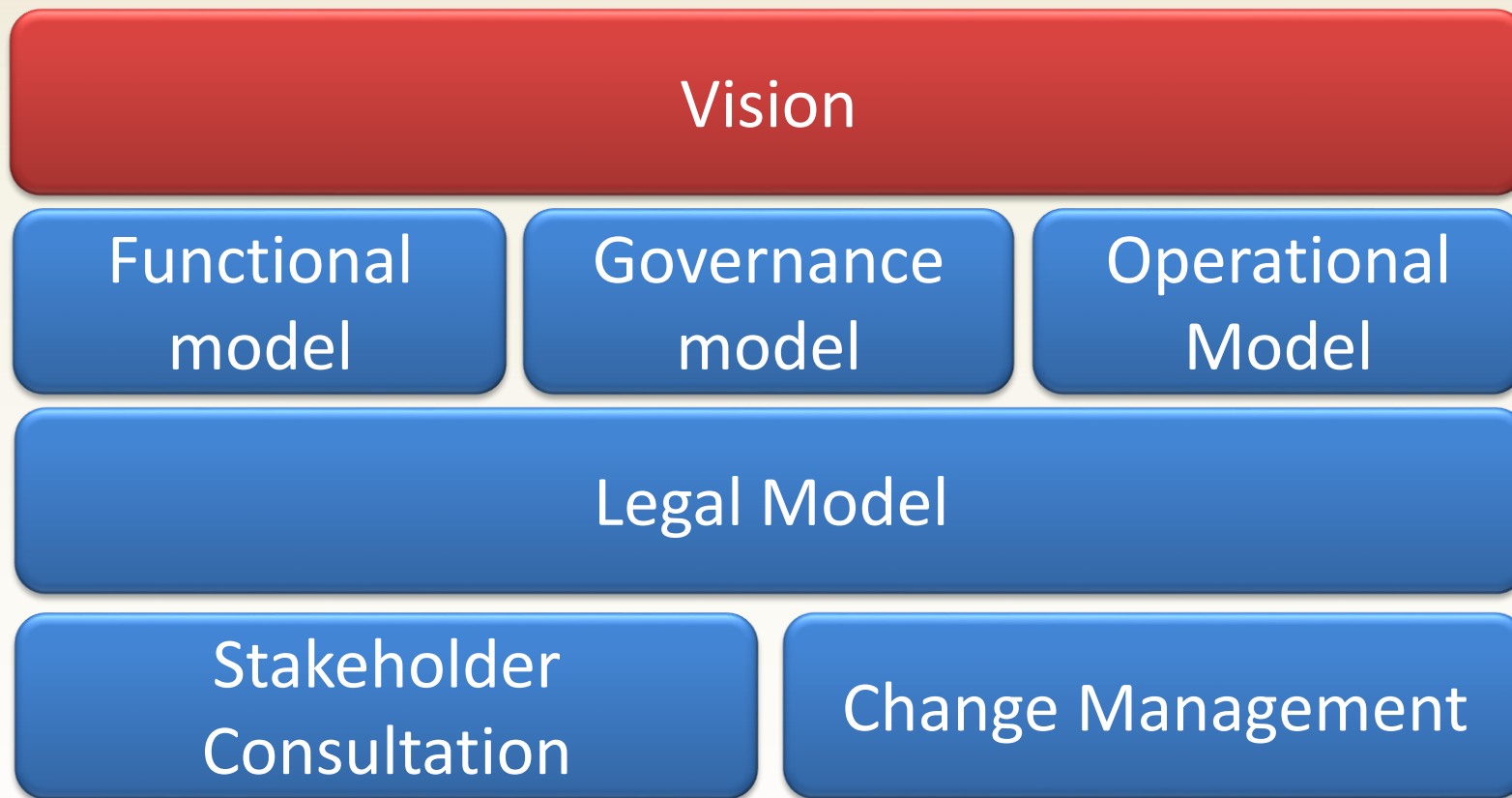- Tools to support concerns raised by clients and collaborating agencies

Analysis of costs and benefits for:

- Pre-implementation support
- Post implementation analysis of success

Establishment of defined service standards

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Components of a strategy for Implementing ePhyto

Vision

Functional model

Governance model

Operational Model

Legal Model

Stakeholder Consultation

Change Management

Establishing a vision

Provides a high level description of the policy intent of implementation

Why implement ePhyto nationally?

What are the expectations of the NPPO, its clients, its staff, collaborating agencies such as Customs, other border agents, logistics providers, banks, etc?

What are the potential benefits that could be expected?

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Governance model

Describes the overall governance of the national system

Who is the responsible (the business owner)?

Who are the stakeholders?

What are the expectations of the stakeholders?

What is the timeline?

What are the needs/objectives of Governance?

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Functional model

Describes the structure of the system

What is the system that will be used to produce ePhyto

- e.g. GeNS, a specific NPPO national system, a border inter-connected system, etc.

If the system is not the GeNS, does this system apply the technical standards required for transmission through the hub?

How will the system integrate the other phytosanitary components of the work flow (e.g. lab testing, inspection reports, import permits, etc.)

Can the NPPO comply with the use policy for the ePhyto Solution?

Who is the Administrator? (access permissions, registration of users etc.)

What are roles/responsibilities/activities of the various actors involved in the certification process?

Mapping Business Processes

Current state:

- What and who are involved in the current paper processes?

- What are the activities performed by those involved?

Future state:

- What and who are likely to be involved in an electronic certification system?

- What activities may be performed by those involved?

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Operational Model

Describes the technical operation and responsibilities for the national ePhyto system

Who will operate the system?

What expertise/capacity is expected ?

Does the operator have the legal status (according to national legislation), expertise and capacity to operate the ePhyto?

Who is the implementer versus who is the operator?

What are the services and service standards expected?

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Financing Model

Provides clarity on how the system will be operated

How will infrastructure be financed?

How will additional staffing be financed?

How will ongoing operation be financed?

Who decides on the financing model?

What information is required to support the decision?

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Legal

The implementation and operation of the ePhyto System must be based on a legal framework

Does legislation support the issuance and receipt of electronic documents?

Does legislation allow for receiving electronic information from clients?

Do you have an electronic transaction law and how does it align with Plant Protection laws?

Does the legislation address misuse, illegal access; security; ...

Is electronic submission going to be mandatory under the law?

Is electronic payment covered within the legislation?

Does the legislation prescribe ownership of data?

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Stakeholders consultation

Who are the stakeholders?

- Internally within the organization; within government; clients; other stakeholders (e.g. banks, transport and logistics, etc.)

What are the legal obligations for stakeholder consultations?

- May impact timelines and finances

Is there competence in the organization to engage with stakeholders?

How are stakeholder views incorporated into changes in the processes, operations, technical design

How are stakeholders kept informed of the decisions in regard to their view and suggestions?

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Change Management

What are the changes to roles and how are these handled?

What is the training approach and plan for implementation?

What SOPs and work plans are needed?

Post implementation review

- Who will monitor the realisation of the benefits and report regularly to the Governance?
- Where benefits are not being realised are changes to the system or processes required and how will this be implemented?

Thank you!

Shane Sela
ePhyto Project Manager
IPPC Secretariat
shane.sela@fao.org