DRAFT SPECIFICATION FOR ISPM: Safe provision of food and other humanitarian aid

Status box

This is not an official part of the specification and it will be modified by the IPPC Secretariat after approval	
Date of this document	
Document category	
Current document stage	
Major stages	
Steward history	
Notes	

Title

[1] Safe provision of food and other humanitarian aid

Reason for the standard

[2] Countries receiving food and other humanitarian aid are exposed to pests that, unless appropriate and timely risk management is applied, may become established and have a long-term impact on the economy, environment and communities long after the country has recovered from the emergency situation. The growing number of global cases of pest introductions through aid demonstrates a gap in current processes (Murphy and Heesman 2006).

Scope

[3] This standard will address phytosanitary risks and their effective management under emergency or disaster response situations associated with humanitarian aid including food, water, building materials, people, machinery and equipment, as well as plants and plant products that may be imported to re-establish recovery of food and other production industries.

Purpose

[4] The standard will guide governments, aid agencies, exporters and importers and regulators (NPPOs) on the phytosanitary risk management of food and other humanitarian aid materials provided to assist response and recovery of countries after a natural disaster or other emergency situation. The standard will identify goods that pose little or no phytosanitary risk and which can be moved freely. It will provide examples of goods that pose a phytosanitary risk requiring management in order to prevent the introduction of quarantine pests, as well as risk management options that may reduce the risk to an acceptable level.

Tasks

[5] The Expert Drafting Group (EDG) should undertake the following tasks:

(1) Identify frequently accessed goods and materials provided as humanitarian aid, in consultation with countries or areas that have received such aid within the last five years.

(2) Consider both actual and potential phytosanitary risks associated with the import of these goods.

(3) Consider the short, medium and long-term consequences of establishment of pests associated with humanitarian aid.

(4) Consider the risk associated with certain high risk practices to deliver food aid, such as air drops of grain or other seeds and how this may contribute to unintended pest spread.

(5) Identify risk management options to manage these risks, including widely available commercial manufacturing processes which are recognised as effective in addressing phytosanitary risk, particularly in circumstances where risk assessment and risk management options in the importing country have been impacted by the emergency or disaster situation.

(6) Consider pre-clearance or off-shore mitigation options to address risks prior to export.

(7) Generate a holistic table to collate materials, risks and possible risk management options, with reference to existing ISPMs, implementation resources and other documents as required.

(8) Identify other agencies that NPPOs will need to liaise with in order to achieve national implementation of the standard and identify the mechanisms for providing information to these other identified agencies (donors, aid agencies, faith-based groups, diaspora, NPPOs, logistics operators other government agencies) to enhance capacity for reducing the risk posed by goods provided in an emergency situation.

(9) Document examples of pest establishments attributed to food aid and the impact of these pests.

(10) Consider whether the ISPM could affect in a specific way (positively or negatively) the protection of biodiversity and the environment. If this is the case, the impact should be identified, addressed and clarified in the draft ISPM.

N.B. See the IPPC Style Guide, section 2.1, "Guidance for expert drafting groups on the task pertaining to biodiversity and the environment". (https://www.ippc.int/en/publications/132/)

(11) Consider implementation of the standard by contracting parties and identify potential operational and technical implementation issues. Provide information and possible recommendations on these issues to the Standards Committee (SC).

Provision of resources

[6] Funding for the meeting may be provided from sources other than the regular programme of the IPPC (FAO). As recommended by ICPM-2 (1999), whenever possible, those participating in standard setting activities voluntarily fund their travel and subsistence to attend meetings. Participants may request financial assistance, with the understanding that resources are limited and the priority for financial assistance is given to developing country participants. Please refer to the *Criteria used for prioritizing participants to receive travel assistance to attend meetings organized by the IPPC Secretariat* posted on the International Phytosanitary Portal (IPP) (see https://www.ippc.int/en/core-activities/).

Collaborator

[7] To be determined.

Steward

[8] Please refer to the *List of topics for IPPC standards* posted on the International Phytosanitary Portal (IPP) (see https://www.ippc.int/core-activities/standards-setting/list-topics-ippc-standards).

Expertise

[9] Five to seven experts with a wide knowledge and experience in providing or receiving humanitarian aid and the management of phytosanitary risks associated with traded goods, including at least one person knowledgeable in procurement and supply of humanitarian aid in the private sector and one from the public sector; and at least one person knowledgeable in the clearance and risk management of imported goods under operating conditions compromised by emergency or disaster constraints.

Participants

[10] [To be determined.]

References

[11] The IPPC, relevant ISPMs and other national, regional and international standards and agreements as may be applicable to the tasks, and discussion papers submitted in relation to this work.

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Discussion papers

[13] Participants and interested parties are encouraged to submit discussion papers to the IPPC Secretariat (ippc@fao.org) for consideration by the EDG.