



# COMMISSION ON PHYTOSANITARY MEASURES

## Sixteenth Session

**Virtual Meeting, 5, 7 and 21 April 2022**

**Projects managed by the IPPC Secretariat**

**Agenda item 11.6**

**Prepared by the IPPC Secretariat**

## I. Background and achievements

1. During 2021, the Implementation Facilitation Unit (IFU) of the IPPC Secretariat managed eight projects for a value of over seven million USD. The IPPC Secretariat relies strongly on extrabudgetary funds and was grateful to receive the generous support on various projects from China, the European Union, Japan the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa Secretariat (COMESA) Secretariat, the Standard Trade and Development Facility and the World Bank. To deliver the agreed outputs from these projects with high quality products while meeting FAO procedure requirements, experienced professionals from all over the world were recruited.

2. To help increase transparency and ensure projects managed by the IPPC Secretariat have a global impact, the Bureau in June 2018<sup>1</sup> agreed that the IC should provide an oversight function on new implementation and capacity development projects to ensure that they are aligned with the IPPC strategic objectives, have strategic value and a competitive advantage. In addition, the Bureau also agreed that the IPPC Secretariat holds the project management function and would update the IC on project progress and where necessary seek technical input.

3. A Strategy and process on how the Implementation and Capacity Development Committee (IC) reviews and analyses Implementation and Capacity Development (ICD) projects was agreed upon by the IC at the IC meeting in May 2019<sup>2</sup> and are now being implemented.

<sup>1</sup> Report Bureau meeting 2018-06: [http://assets.ippc.int/static/media/files/publication/en/2018/07/Bureau\\_Report\\_June\\_2018-07-23.pdf](http://assets.ippc.int/static/media/files/publication/en/2018/07/Bureau_Report_June_2018-07-23.pdf)

<sup>2</sup> Report IC meeting 2019-05: [http://assets.ippc.int/static/media/files/publication/en/2019/06/IC\\_4th\\_May\\_2019\\_meeting\\_report\\_2019-06-21.pdf](http://assets.ippc.int/static/media/files/publication/en/2019/06/IC_4th_May_2019_meeting_report_2019-06-21.pdf)

4. In particular, for new ICD projects, the IPPC Secretariat presents a project concept note to the IC who reviews it to ensure the project is aligned with the IPPC strategic objectives, has strategic value and a competitive advantage.
5. In addition, a call is issued on the IPP every year by the IPPC Secretariat to collect worldwide phytosanitary projects from CP's, RPPOs, FAO offices, donors and implementing organizations and the IC is requested to analyze and discuss the relevance of the projects as well as analyze and communicate the outputs of ICD projects.
6. Projects that meet the above criteria, that are managed by IFU or for which the IFU provides backstopping, are assigned an IC Lead.
7. The IC is therefore informed and aware at all times of the status of ICD projects that the IFU is involved with.
8. Transparency with the wider IPPC Community has also been enhanced as webpages<sup>3</sup> dedicated to individual ICD projects managed by the IFU were created and provide the code, title, start and end date of the project, budget as well as a description of the project and clear deliverables.
9. The IFU focuses on implementing projects having a regional or global impact. Efforts have been made to help ensure any training materials developed within projects follow the IC approved processes including adding relevant topics to the ICD List of Topics. An example is the e-Learning training materials to be developed within the COMESA project following the *IC Process for the Development of IPPC Implementation and Capacity Development Guides and Training Materials*. Extra effort is required to comply both with the donors requirements and the IC process to produce global high-quality and peer reviewed training materials.
10. Consistency with the IPPC Secretariat framework is also sought. Efforts have also been made to align the definition of "project" with the IPPC Strategic Framework 2020-2030 (IPPC SF). For instance, the European Union's Project that supports the implementation of the IPPC SF follows closely the activities described in three of the IPPC SF Development Agenda points: "Strengthening Pest Outbreak Alert and Response Systems", "Harmonization of electronic data exchange" and "Commodity and pathway specific ISPMs".
11. Efforts have also been made to dialogue upfront with the donors on the implementation of projects regarding possible delays and changes to expenditures, particularly with the pivots needed to address issues related to the global pandemic. Whilst solutions were found to deliver planned activities in the most harmonious way with long standing donors such as the European Union, the Standard Trade Development Facility, the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA) Secretariat, IFU solicited new donors, namely the World Bank and GIZ (the German Cooperation, Gesellschaft für International Zusammenarbeit) to help conduct Phytosanitary Capacity Evaluations and implement the ePhyto solution.
12. The IPPC Secretariat also led negotiations for an innovative collaboration between FAO and the Comité de Liaison Europe-Afrique-Caraïbes-Pacifique (COLEACP), further strengthening partnerships with this institution through a Memorandum of Cooperation signed by the highest level within FAO.

## **II. Information on projects managed by the IPPC Secretariat**

13. The following projects were managed by IFU in 2021:

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<sup>3</sup> ICD Projects: <http://www.ippc.int/en/core-activities/capacity-development/projects-on-implementation-and-capacity-development/>

- MTF/INT/336/STF: Rolling out Systems Approach Globally<sup>4</sup>. The IC was the Steering Committee for this project which has now been completed. The IC, as the Steering Committee for this project, held specific meetings to discuss the implementation and the outcomes of this project. This project has developed tools that provide guidance on how to apply a systems approach.
- GCP/INT/387/COM/FAO: FAO support to the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA) trade facilitation programme<sup>5</sup>. The IC received several updates regarding the creation of e-learning training materials under the framework of this project, which were also (or will be) open for consultation under the IPPC Online Commenting System for IC members (i.e. PRA, export certification, inspection, and surveillance and reporting). The Secretariat is leading the preparation of simulation exercises for pest outbreak response and will organize diagnostic and surveillance virtual training workshops for a specific target pest.
- GCP/INT/291/CPR: Strengthening the capacity of developing contracting parties to implement the International Plant Protection Convention and its standards under FAO-China South-South Cooperation (SSC) programme<sup>6</sup>. This project has been extended until 2023 due to the pandemic. A virtual technical workshop was organized on phytosanitary measures and attended by over 20 developing countries. The project also supported activities on emerging pests and on National Reporting Obligations.
- GCP/GLO/877/EC: Third cycle of the European Commission's (EC) Implementation Review and Support System (IRSS) project<sup>7</sup>, for which there is an IC IRSS Sub-Group. Additional studies and publications were also developed.
- GCP/GLO/025/EC: Supporting the implementation of the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC)<sup>8</sup>. This project supports the production of guidance/training material, which are prioritized by the IC through the List of Topics. This European Commission (EC) project also ensures participation to capacity development meetings (of IC and working groups).
- GCP/GLO/040/EC: Support to the IPPC Strategic Framework: Commodity and pathways standards, Pest Outbreak Alert and Response Systems and e-Phyto<sup>9</sup>. This EC project follows the three related Development Agenda.
- GCPT/GLO/102/JPN: Japan Support for Implementation and Capacity Development Activities of the IPPC Secretariat<sup>10</sup>. This project mainly supports the costs for a Japanese national to work in the IPPC Secretariat.

14. Furthermore, the IPPC Secretariat implements Phytosanitary Capacity Evaluations (PCEs) through backstopping FAO projects and other project settings. A PCE webpage<sup>11</sup> has been set, which provides a list of all the countries where PCEs were implemented. An IC PCE Team is also receiving updates on PCEs being conducted, which are usually also shared with the IPPC Community through news:

- in Sri Lanka (part of the China Project described above);

<sup>4</sup> Rolling out Systems Approach Globally: <http://www.ippc.int/en/core-activities/capacity-development/beyond-compliance-project/>

<sup>5</sup> FAO support to the COMESA Trade Facilitation Programme: <http://www.ippc.int/en/core-activities/capacity-development/projects-on-implementation-and-capacity-development/comesa-trade-facilitation-programme/>

<sup>6</sup> Strengthening the capacity of developing contracting parties to implement the International Plant Protection Convention and its standards under FAO-China South-South Cooperation (SSC) programme <http://www.ippc.int/fr/core-activities/capacity-development/projects-on-implementation-and-capacity-development/fao-china-project/>

<sup>7</sup> European Commission's (EC) Implementation Review and Support System (IRSS) project <http://www.ippc.int/en/core-activities/capacity-development/projects-on-implementation-and-capacity-development/ec-3rd-cycle-2018-2020-irss/>

<sup>8</sup> Supporting the implementation of the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC), <https://www.ippc.int/en/core-activities/capacity-development/ec-support-of-implementation-of-ippc/>

<sup>9</sup> Support to the IPPC Strategic Framework: Commodity and pathways standards, Pest Outbreak Alert and Response Systems and e-Phyto, <http://www.ippc.int/en/core-activities/capacity-development/ec-support-of-implementation-of-ippc/ec-support-to-the-ippc-strategic-framework/>

<sup>10</sup> Japan Support for Implementation and Capacity Development Activities of the IPPC Secretariat, <https://www.ippc.int/en/core-activities/capacity-development/projects-on-implementation-and-capacity-development/japan-support-for-implementation-capacity-development-activities/>

<sup>11</sup> Phytosanitary Capacity Evaluation webpage: <https://www.ippc.int/en/core-activities/capacity-development/phytosanitary-capacity-evaluation/>

- in Nepal, which just started, through a financing with the World Bank;
- in Fiji and Mongolia through FAO projects for review of the phytosanitary legislation is to be supported.

### III. Resources management

15. Project management represents a large activity for IFU, encompassing project planning, reporting, staffing, the issuance of purchase orders, staff management and the development of resources in coordination with the IC, IC sub-groups and Teams.

16. An ad hoc team of highly qualified staff and consultants was progressively established to deliver the agreed upon outputs. The list of IFU staff is frequently updated and is available on the IPP<sup>12</sup>. The IFU annual work plan is also available on the IPP<sup>13</sup> and reflects the necessary synergies made in between projects and the List of Topics under the IC guidance.

17. CPM-16 is invited to:

- 1) *Note* the transparency and compliance with IC procedures for projects managed by the IFU.
- 2) *Note* the synergies and efficiency with the IC when managing ICD projects in order to deliver global output following IC procedures.
- 3) *Note* the efforts to create synergies between the ICD list of topics, all under the guidance of the IC and the outputs of the ICD projects the IFU is involved with.
- 4) *Note* that deliverable of ICD projects are listed in the IFU annual work plan.
- 5) *Note* staff involved in the delivery of projects are presented in the IFU staff list.

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<sup>12</sup> List of IFU staff: <http://www.ippc.int/en/publications/85686/>.

<sup>13</sup> IFU annual work plan: <http://www.ippc.int/en/publications/85803/>