



UPDATE ON THE IPPC OBSERVATORY

Introduction to the IPPC Observatory

- [1] The IPPC Observatory is a system that monitors the implementation of the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC), International Standards for Phytosanitary Measures (ISPMs), and Commission on Phytosanitary Measures (CPM) Recommendations. An Implementation and Capacity Development Committee (IC) Subgroup was established to monitor and evaluate the work undertaken under the IPPC Observatory and guide the IPPC Secretariat on IPPC Observatory-related activities.
- [2] The IC uses information from the IPPC Observatory to support contracting parties in IPPC implementation and capacity building in several ways.
- **Identifying challenges and best practices:** The IPPC Observatory collects data on implementing the IPPC, ISPMs, and CPM Recommendations through surveys and studies. This data is used to identify common challenges faced by contracting parties, as well as best practices that can be shared and adopted.
 - **Monitoring progress:** The IPPC Observatory tracks progress on IPPC implementation over time. This information is used to identify areas where additional support is needed and to assess the effectiveness of IPPC capacity-building programs.
 - **Informing decision-making:** The IC uses information from the IPPC Observatory to inform its decision-making on the optimal ways to support contracting parties in IPPC implementation and capacity building. This includes deciding on resource allocation, the development of new programs, and the provision of technical assistance.

2023 Update

CPM-17 Outcomes

- [3] During CPM-17, several important decisions and commitments were made regarding the IPPC Observatory, including:
- a) Canada and the Republic of Korea committed financial contributions towards the activities of the IPPC Observatory.
 - b) A new study on e-commerce will be launched.
 - c) A survey on antimicrobials in the phytosanitary context would be launched.
 - d) The European Commission expressed willingness to continue financially supporting the IPPC Observatory activities.

Communication

- [4] In order to enhance communication, several resources related to the IPPC Observatory have been made available. These include a factsheet, video, and visual identity, as well as a redesigned webpage that outlines the objectives and missions. Additionally, the IPPC Observatory's list of topic studies has been transformed into a searchable database on the IPP. Links to these communication tools can be found below.

IPPC Observatory Factsheet : <https://www.fao.org/documents/card/en/c/cc1022en>

IPPC Observatory Video : <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3tsuqqTpdAQ>

IPPC Observatory webpage : <https://www.ippc.int/en/ippc-observatory/>

IPPC Observatory list of topics: <https://www.ippc.int/en/core-activities/capacity-development/list-topics-ippc-irss/list>

Publications

- [5] The IPPC Observatory has conducted several studies on important topics related to IPPC implementation. In 2022, eight new desk studies were completed, focusing on priority areas. Two studies on "Developing Guidance on Risk-based Border Management (2019-13, Priority 1)" and "The use of IPPC Diagnostic Protocols (2019-14, Priority 1)" have been finalized and sent for publication by the FAO. These reports are expected to be released in 2023.

Priority activities for 2023

- [6] The IC recommended four priority activities for the IPPC Observatory when funding is available. These include:
- a) monitoring the implementation of the objectives of the development agenda items of the IPPC Strategic Framework (2020–2030),
 - b) conducting the Third General Survey (monitoring the implementation of the IPPC as well as the adopted ISPMs to provide an overview),
 - c) launching the studies for the priority 1 topics in the work plan and launching a call of topics for surveys and studies, in order to raise awareness.

Final Reminder

- [7] The IRSS Triennial Implementation Review Report (2014-2017) provided some conclusions and recommendations relevant to the RPPOs in the section under *lessons Learnt - elements of success*, which noted that:

There is a need to further enhance interaction and collaboration with RPPOs in the review and evaluation of implementation and ...more input and collaboration is required from RPPOs ... when IRSS activities are conducted.

- [8] Recommendation 1 of the report invited the RPPOs to start using the IRSS (Now IPPC Observatory) functionalities.

The TC-RPPO *is invited to:*

- (1) *Note* the paper.
- (2) *Discuss* the options to support the work of the IPPC Observatory and the opportunity to use the outputs in their work.
- (3) *Discuss* the possibility of submitting topics for the IPPC Observatory work programme.