



CPM-18: Written reports from relevant international organizations – Report from The International Seed Federation (ISF)

1. The International Seed Federation (ISF) has consistently played a pivotal role in advancing the global seed industry since its inception in 1924. As a non-governmental, non-profit organization, ISF is committed to representing the interests of the seed industry worldwide, promoting food security and sustainable agriculture. Acknowledged as the authoritative voice of the global seed industry, ISF champions the free movement of seeds within a fair, science-based regulatory framework that benefits farmers, growers, the industry, and consumers alike.
2. The year 2023 marked significant strides in advocating for science-based phytosanitary measures, with ISF dispatching official letters addressing unjustified phytosanitary requirements, thereby promoting global awareness of the necessity for technically justified measures.
3. Moreover, ISF embarked on pivotal projects in 2023, including developing a comprehensive statement on microplastics and revising the ISF Position Paper on the Movement of Treated Seed to align with the latest scientific and regulatory advancements. These initiatives underscore ISF's commitment to informed, science-based practices in the seed industry.
4. The International Seed Health Initiative (ISHI), under ISF, celebrated 30 years of enhancing seed health worldwide. In 2023, ISHI advanced seed health practices and standards, particularly through a technical meeting in Atlanta focused on standardizing seed health methodologies.
5. A notable achievement in 2023 was the emphasis on several advocacy pieces for the adoption of a systems approach for seed, exemplified by a site visit to many seed companies that showcased the success of international collaboration on a multilateral systems approach for seeds. This effort is crucial for developing more efficient and effective global phytosanitary measures.
6. ISF also has been instrumental in supporting the global adoption and implementation of the IPPC electronic phytosanitary certificate (ePhyto) Solution by governments worldwide. Recognizing the importance of digital transformation in facilitating smoother international seed trade, ISF has actively engaged with member countries and international bodies to advocate for the widespread use of ePhyto. This effort not only streamlines the certification process, enhancing efficiency and reducing administrative burdens, but also significantly contributes to the security and sustainability of global agricultural supply chains.
7. The World Seed Congress in Cape Town was another landmark event for ISF in 2023, highlighting several relevant topics such as digitalization in the agri-food supply chain and phytosanitary frameworks and strategies in Africa plus the significant roles of youth and women in agriculture. With over 250 young delegates participating, the congress fostered a space for future leaders in the industry, while the inaugural Women's Luncheon and related advocacy initiatives celebrated and empowered women's contributions to seed science and agribusiness.
8. Additionally, 2023 saw refreshed partnerships and actions, including the launch of the "Inclusive Seed Systems Initiative," and the commencement of trials under the "Harnessing Quality Seeds for Improving Food and Nutrition Security" project in Rwanda. These endeavours, exemplify ISF's robust engagement in promoting innovation, inclusivity, and sustainability in the global agriculture sector, marking a year of significant progress and renewed commitment to the advancement of the seed industry.

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Link [International Seed Federation \(worldseed.org\)](https://www.worldseed.org)