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Phytosanitary Capacity Evaluations (PCE) and latest developments

Agenda item 7.5



What is the Phytosanitary Capacity Evaluation?

The **PCE** is a **fully comprehensive NPPO-led, facilitator-enabled**, IPPC Secretariat-supported process of multiple phases, with a wide range of benefits, to help countries evaluate their phytosanitary capacities



Coordination

NPPO designates a PCE National Coordinator



Stakeholders

Actively participate and contribute to the PCE and improvement of a country's phytosanitary capacities



Consensus

PCE consists of three consensus workshops (It is not a one-man task)



Facilitation

IPPC identifies a list of facilitators
NPPO selects a PCE Facilitator
Int. and nat. legal consultants



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PCE Background

- The PCE is **owned by FAO** and **managed by the IPPC Secretariat**
- The PCE is **recognized and endorsed** by all Contracting Parties (CPs) to the IPPC (ICPM 3, 2001) and managed by the IPPC Secretariat.
- The PCE process has undergone several iterations and refinements. FAO, IPPC Secretariat, and other stakeholders have collaborated to enhance its effectiveness and relevance to countries' evolving needs.
- Data generated through the process is sensitive and confidential. **Data is securely stored on the FAO servers and the users are now even more protected with the PCE Terms and Conditions.**
- The process is guided by the **confidentiality agreement (for stakeholders, Donors)**



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Modalities to access a PCE

The following three modalities are available for conducting a PCE:

1. Facilitated modality with the support of an IPPC-certified PCE facilitator **with** technical guidance from the IPPC Secretariat.
2. Facilitated modality with the support of an IPPC-certified PCE facilitator but **without** IPPC Secretariat involvement.
3. **Independent** modality, the NPPO takes all responsibilities.



System (3)

- Country Profile
- Legislation
- Environmental forces

Organizational (3)

- NPPO's mission and strategy
- NPPO's structure and processes
- NPPO's resources

Core activities (7)

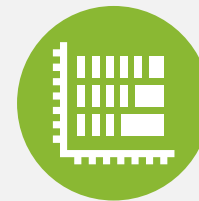
- Pest Diagnostic capabilities
- Surveillance and pest reporting
- Pest eradication
- Import regulation
- Pest risk analysis
- Pest-free areas
- Export certification & transit

Tailored and modular gap identification assessment:

1. Three levels of assessment
2. Each module contains a set of questions
3. Allows to identify gaps and their prioritization
4. Up to five gaps are prioritized per module
5. Countries can select the number of modules that suit their necessities and context
6. A full assessment is also possible
7. Arranged into an online system:



Modularity



Secure store



Confidentiality



Framework for Evaluation



Situation analysis

- Identification of stakeholders
- Consultations for completion of PCE modules selected by the country
- Identify up to five weaknesses per module

Strategic planning

- Conduct problem analysis ([compass](#))
- Conduct a SWOT analysis ([equips to navigate the landscape](#))
- Apply Logical Framework methodology ([Roadmap](#))
- Prepare the first draft of the national strategic plan

Validation

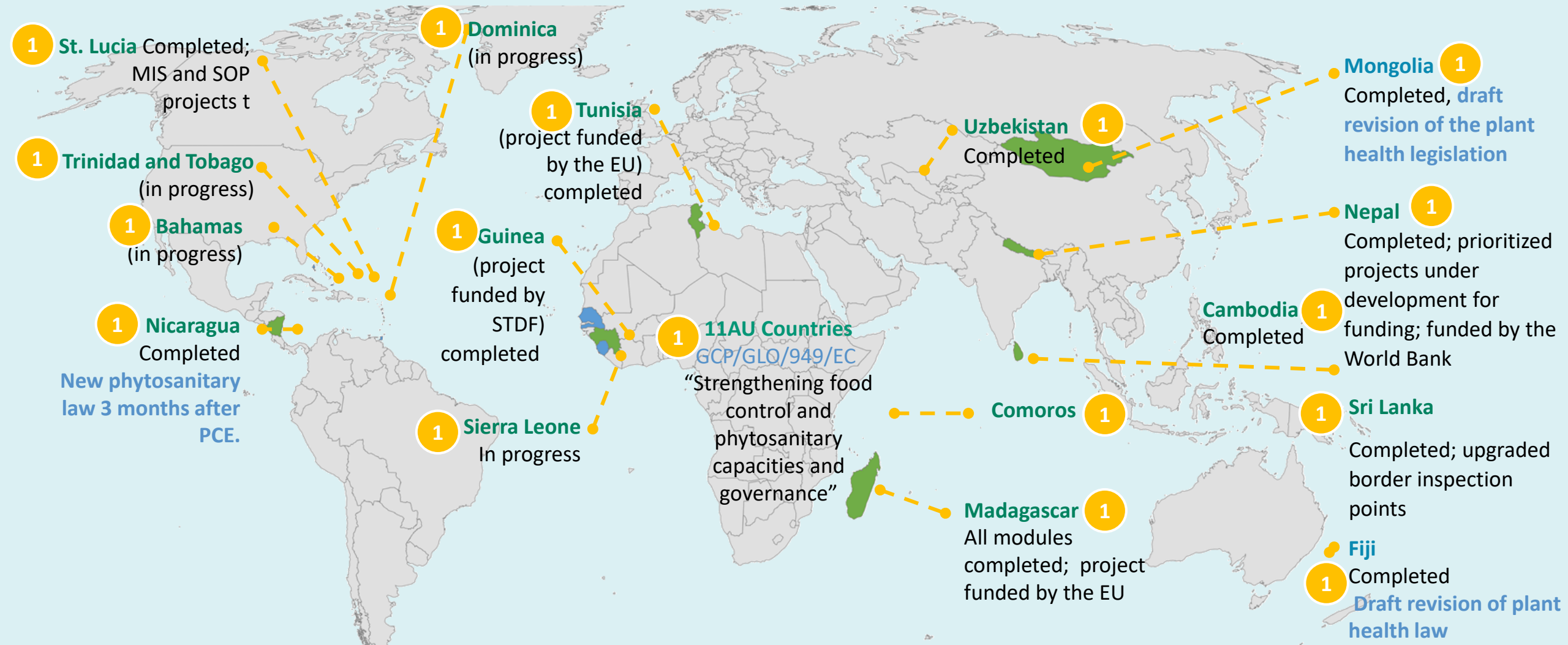
- Consultations with stakeholders on draft strategic plan
- National validation workshop with stakeholders
- Identify priorities in the strategy

PCE OUTCOMES



Phytosanitary Capacity Development Strategy

New/revised legislation/regulation



Snapshot of PCEs 2020 – 2023



Key strategies and investments by the IPPC Secretariat over the last 20 years

Raising awareness

- Raising awareness among member countries about the benefits of the PCE.
- Targeted communication campaigns, workshops, and seminars, stakeholders

Developing a reliable and user-friendly Online PCE System

- Substantial resources have been invested in the development and maintenance of a reliable and easy-to-use online PCE system.

Regular revision and updating

- Regular revision and updating to align with evolving needs, best practices, and international standards.
- **PCE Desk Study Conducted in 2023 consisting of several outputs to maximize the PCE process and impacts**

Building a network of phytosanitary experts

- IC strategy to certificate PCE facilitators.
- Several phytosanitary experts around the world. have been certified as PCE facilitators



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Let's have a look on the PCE Strategy 2020-2030 and its 6 Key Results Areas



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Vision:

Countries are empowered to continuously improve their phytosanitary systems to prevent the introduction and spread of pests.

Strategic objectives:

- Phytosanitary Capacity Evaluation has been widely used by member countries to understand strengths and weaknesses and develop plans to address capacity deficiencies.
- The IPPC Secretariat is resourced to help countries access assistance to address phytosanitary capacity needs.



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1. Countries, donors and development organizations are aware of the PCE and understand the benefits arising from its application;

The PCE Tool is revised and updated regularly and new modules and strategic planning tools are added as needed (e.g. environmental module, implementation follow up tool);

Long-term sustainable funding is in place to support the maintenance and administration of the PCE and resources are mobilized to support the application of the PCE;

A strong network of phytosanitary expertise is available to facilitate the application of PCEs;

The PCE software and platform are reliable, effective and easy to use;

The Monitoring and Evaluation framework is used to measure outcomes from the application of PCEs.



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Highlights from the PCE Desk Study conducted in 2023!



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Findings uptake & process satisfaction:

- **Results of PCE shared:** identification of areas for improvement; enhancing credibility with trading partners; safeguarding interests in imports; strategic priority developing; mobilizing resources; strengthening collaboration with stakeholders; updating legislation; enhancing facilities
- **Learning :** PCE can have a transformative impact on organizational culture, embedding strategic thinking and planning tools
- **Satisfaction with process:** Generally high but suggestions for improving the online platform's user-friendliness. Extra support also requested for before the process (to train on the use of the tools) and after the process (to support transition from recommendations to action)
- **Facilitator impact:** Recognized as crucial in guiding NPPOs through the process effectively.



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Facilitator impact and recommendations:

- **Facilitator Role** : Essential in ensuring comprehensive understanding and engagement in the process
- **Recommendations for Facilitators** : Enhanced training on strategic planning tools and development of soft skills.
- **Post-PCE support**: Calls for additional support from facilitators in implementing recommendations and securing funding.



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Strategic planning & learning

- **Documentation of Weaknesses:** enable NPPOs to advocate for changes within their systems.
- **Capacity Enhancement:** Strategic planning process equipped NPPOs with skills for self-assessment and improvement.
- **Organizational Culture Impact:** Fostered a culture of detail orientation and continuous improvement.



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**Let's see how the PCE process will be enhanced
based on the Desk Study recommendations and
According to the six key result areas PCE
strategy 2020-2030
!**



Awareness and understanding

- Update the PCE web page
- SPS gap analysis
- PCE communication plan
- Showcase a hypothetical example output

Monitoring and evaluation implementation

- COLEAD to organize a 4-week virtual course on R-Sat (PCE COMESA Project)
- Organize a project definition one-week course with all facilitators R-Sat (PCE COMESA Project)
- project restitution workshop (PCE COMESA Project)

Expertise development

- Risk-Based Management course to all new PCE facilitators, and national coordinators .
- Certification of new PCE facilitators
- Online learning platform
- PCE facilitator training curricula



Sustainable funding

- Share the PCE cost structure information
- Resource mobilization strategy

Software and platform enhancement

- Analysis of requirements to migrate to UNICC
- Migrate the PCE online system to UNICC

Tool revision and updates

- Questionnaire to gather initial ideas (quantitative system, new modules, etc).
- study on how gender can be integrated in the PCE
- pre-PCE training plan for PCE national coordinators and NPPO
- Alternative PCE formats (PCE light)
- strategy to extend support after the PCE



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Certification of new PCE facilitators!

Training includes :

- Completion of relevant free courses on the IPPCs , and FAO e-learning website include (PRA, Surveillance, Export Certification, NRO, ...)
- Online training in results-based management and the application of Strategic management tools (SWOT, Decision Tree, and Logical framework approach)
- One week face to face training on facilitating a PCE
- Successful completion of a PCE in a selected country under the guidance of a certified facilitator

A PCE Board will be set to certify these PCE facilitators following the IC procedure:

https://assets.ippc.int/static/media/files/publication/en/2022/02/Procedure_for_PCE_facilitator_certification.pdf



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Let's recall the benefits of conducting a PCE!



Benefits from the PCE

IPPC / News & Calls / Category: Spotlights / highlight / ▼

SPOTLIGHT: Building a resilient plant health system in Senegal

Posted on Wed, 24 Apr 2024, 11:28



©Direction of Plant Protection, Senegal

Senegal's commitment to using the PCE outcomes to advance plant health and the country's phytosanitary capacity are paying off. In November 2023, the Standards and Trade Development Facility (STDF) committed USD 830 000 for a project titled "*Strengthening phytosanitary capacities to contribute to food security and the development of exports of horticultural products from Senegal.*"

<https://www.ippc.int/en/news/spotlight-building-a-resilient-plant-health-system-in-senegal/>

More stories at:

[Kenya](#)

[Saint Lucia](#)

[Nicaragua](#)

[Nepal](#)



How are the PCE outputs useful?

Planning

PCE provides a basis for NPPOs to develop a strategic plan for **capacity development**. It allows them to prioritize areas that require improvement and allocate resources effectively to address specific gaps identified during the evaluation.

Training

Based on the PCE findings, NPPOs can **design targeted training programs** to address specific skill gaps among their staff (PRA, pest identification, data management, and other aspects of phytosanitary activities)...:

Advocacy

Demonstrating the importance of strong phytosanitary capacities to stakeholders, policymakers, and the public.

Clear communication

The strengths and improvements needs that can garner support for the NPPO's activities.

Cooperation and collaboration

PCE results can be shared with international partners and organizations to seek support and collaboration (technical assistance, exchange programs, or joint projects to strengthen phytosanitary capacities).



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Next steps for implementation of Phytosanitary Capacity Development Strategies.

Concept notes

Development of specific projects and or concept notes to implement activities

Low hanging fruits

Execute those activities that do not require resource mobilization or budget allocation by prioritizing them and committing staff time

Donors

Identify potential donors and prepare targeted proposals based on PCE results.

Monitoring

Give live to the National Phytosanitary Capacity Development Strategy and monitor its progress.

Legal

Decide whether any legislation/regulation needs to be updated as per outputs from the legal assessment



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Initiate the pathway for an improved phytosanitary system in your country !!

Visit the IPP to learn how to access a PCE!

<https://www.ippc.int/en/about/core-activities/capacity-development/phytosanitary-capacity-evaluation/>



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Thank you

IPPC Secretariat

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