



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations



International
Plant Protection
Convention

ENHANCING DEVELOPING COUNTRIES' CAPACITIES TO MANAGE THEIR NATIONAL PHYTOSANITARY SYSTEMS

With rapid globalization, international travel and trade have reached unprecedented levels, increasing the movement of people and goods across borders. Along with these movements, organisms that pose risks to plant health also spread globally. In this context, it is crucial for developing countries to have the capacity to manage their national phytosanitary systems, ensuring sustainable food systems, trade, and economic growth while preventing the global spread of plant pests and diseases. The International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC), established in 1952, is an international plant health agreement aimed at safeguarding both cultivated and wild plants from the introduction and spread of pests. The IPPC Secretariat, hosted by the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations, includes 185 contracting parties. The objectives of the project, “Strengthening the Capacity of Developing Contracting Parties to Implement the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC) under the FAO-China South-South Cooperation (SSC) Framework”, were to provide an effective platform for the IPPC to disseminate information, share knowledge, and address key issues related to plant health and climate change adaptation, coping strategies, policies, best practices, and lessons learned.



Training and practical activities in Sri Lanka on new technologies.

WHAT DID THE PROJECT DO?

The project addressed the needs and challenges of developing countries, particularly those involved in the “One Belt, One Road” initiative, by providing crucial support to strengthen their phytosanitary systems and promote safe trade. It contributed to enhancing communication, pest detection, regulatory capacity, and expertise in establishing and managing plant health programs. The initiative aimed to foster sustainable food systems, facilitate trade, and stimulate economic growth, while preventing the global spread of plant pests and diseases.

Cambodia and Sri Lanka were chosen as pilot countries, focusing on banana and mango crops respectively. The project used a comprehensive approach, including the Phytosanitary Capacity Evaluation (PCE), to assess national phytosanitary challenges. Moreover, the project also supported the implementation of the IPPC Strategic Framework 2020-2030.

As part of its contributions to the International Year of Plant Health (IYPH) 2020 and the Global Action for Fall Armyworm (FAW) Control, the project achieved significant progress in building the capacity of developing nations. It strengthened partnerships, facilitated the exchange of knowledge and technologies, and contributed to global plant health efforts. Furthermore, the project successfully adapted to virtual environments during the COVID-19 pandemic, showcasing flexibility and commitment to the transfer of expertise.

KEY FACTS

Latest Approved Budget
USD 2 007 542

Duration
January 2017-December 2023

Resource Partner
Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs (MARA), China

Partners
National Agro-tech Extension and Service Center (NATESC), Center of International Cooperation Service (CICOS), Chinese Academy of Tropical Agricultural Sciences (CATAS) and China Agricultural University (CAU)

Beneficiaries
International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC) developing countries, primarily in the “One Belt, One Road” regions

IMPACT

The project contributed to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), particularly to the ones related to food security, poverty reduction, environmental protection, and international cooperation. By introducing Chinese expertise and best practices to Cambodia and Sri Lanka, the project helped the smallholder farmers to enhance their ability to international trade and plant health standards, thereby strengthening their livelihoods and economic resilience.

ACTIVITIES

- FAO-IPPC Fall armyworm (FAW) Technical Working Group on Quarantine and Phytosanitary Measures established.
- National field demonstrations on banana and mango plant protection technologies conducted in the two pilot countries - Cambodia and Sri Lanka.
- Prevention, preparedness and response guidelines for Fall armyworm (*Spodoptera frugiperda*) developed and published.
- Three-year work plan on FAW prevention (2020-2022) implemented.
- Three webinars on FAW trainings delivered.
- Four high-level symposia, six IPPC workshops, six IPPC National Reporting Obligations (NROs) workshops, and the 31st meeting of the IPPC Technical Consultation among RPPOs supported.
- Two high-level technical training courses on Emerging Phytosanitary issues organized in China.
- Two phytosanitary technology trainings on surveillance and Integrated Pest Management (IPM) management of fruit flies organized in Sri Lanka.
- One Advanced Technical Training Course organized in Beijing.
- Two wrap-up workshops organized in Sri Lanka and Cambodia.
- Two Annual Project Steering Group meetings during IPPC Commission on Phytosanitary Measures (CPM)-13 (2018) and CPM-14 (2019) organized.
- Five virtual IPPC National Reporting Obligations (NROs) training workshops organized.
- 100 countries registered for IPPC e-learning course on NROs.
- Four virtual technical workshops on phytosanitary measures for Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) countries organized.
- IYPH documents developed, including five factsheets and one IYPH brochure, and translated into Chinese, as well as three plant health videos.
- Series of IYPH technical advisory board meetings supported.

Project Title

Strengthening the Capacity of Developing Contracting Parties to Implement the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC) under The FAO-China South-South Cooperation (SSC) Framework

Project Code

FAO: GCP/INT/291/CPR

Contact

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SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



Training and practical activities in Sri Lanka demonstrate how new technologies can better prevent and control the spread of fruit flies and boost plant protection standards for the country.



A preliminary PCE in Sri Lanka identified gaps in the phytosanitary system. The information was used to organize training courses by technical experts to boost phytosanitary knowledge and technologies.



A preliminary PCE in Sri Lanka identified gaps in the phytosanitary system.



Field demonstrations of China's new technologies show how effective surveillance and pest management can contain Banana Fusarium Wilt, a disease impacting banana production and exports in Cambodia.

Partnerships and Outreach
 For more information, please contact: Reporting@fao.org

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