



COMMISSION ON PHYTOSANITARY MEASURES

NINETEENTH SESSION

LIST OF IMPLEMENTATION AND CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT TOPICS

AGENDA ITEM 9.2.1

(Prepared by the IPPC Secretariat)

1. Governance and financial considerations

- [1] The List of Implementation and Capacity Development Topics (ICD-LOT) database, which can be viewed on the International Phytosanitary Portal,¹ identifies all IPPC guides and training material topics that are either under development or planned to be developed.²
- [2] The ICD-LOT is managed and updated once a year by the Implementation and Facilitation Unit (IFU), under the supervision of the Implementation and Capacity Development Committee (IC).
- [3] The ICD-LOT includes the topic number, working title, type of product, stage of development, funding source, and IC and IFU leads, and other information about the topic proposal. Each topic on the ICD-LOT has also been assigned a priority level by the IC. These priorities are important for IPPC Secretariat (hereafter referred to as “the secretariat”) work planning and provide guidance regarding which topics to work on next.
- [4] The development of IPPC guides and training materials is currently not funded through the IPPC regular programme budget and depends on in-kind contribution and financial support from partners and from projects.
- [5] The total cost of developing a guide is between USD 75 000 and USD 130 000, depending on the scope and length of the guide, and the number of experts eligible to receive financial assistance to travel to a working group meeting. The main costs include hiring a consultant to lead the work, organizing a face-to-face working group meeting, editing, graphic design, e-book formatting and promoting the published product. The development of guides also has human resource implications for the IFU related to supervision, publication, communication and administration.
- [6] Creating an e-learning course through the FAO elearning Academy, which typically comprises of 3–5 lessons, costs USD 9 510 per lesson and does not include the development of the technical content.
- [7] This paper provides an update on the status of the topics on the ICD-LOT. Please refer to the May and November 2024 IC meeting reports³ for more detailed information.

¹ List of Implementation and Capacity Development Topics: <https://www.ippc.int/en/core-activities/capacity-development/list-topics-ippc-implementation/list>

² IPPC guides and training materials are guides, guidelines, e-learning courses, training kits, curricula and other information products that are developed under the oversight of the IC to support capacity development and implementation of the IPPC by contracting parties.

³ Implementation and Capacity Development Committee (IC): <https://www.ippc.int/en/commission/capacity-development-committee/>

2. Guides and training materials completed in 2024

- [8] One (1) IPPC guide, two (2) e-learning courses, and the Fusarium TR4 (*Fusarium oxysporum* f. sp. cubense Tropical Race 4) training materials were completed or revised in 2024:
- [Guide to participating in the Commission on Phytosanitary Measures of the International Plant Protection Convention](#);
 - [National reporting obligations e-learning course](#) (revised);
 - [Surveillance and pest status determination e-learning course](#) (revised); and
 - [Fusarium TR4 training materials](#).

3. Guides and training materials currently under development (priority 1)

- [9] The IPPC plant health officer training curricula (2017-054) is being developed within the framework and with the financial support of the project, “[Strengthening Food Control and Phytosanitary Capacities and Governance](#)” (GCP/GLO/949/EC). All deliverables from the project will be available by June 2025, when the project concludes.
- [10] Several elements of this large project are being developed in collaboration with the FAO elearning Academy. This includes the IPPC Plant Health Campus e-learning platform; a learning pathways tool linking key national plant protection organization (NPPO) phytosanitary roles with relevant e-learning courses and IPPC guides; and an on-boarding course for NPPO staff. In addition, another five new e-learning courses are being developed based on the following existing IPPC guides and materials:
- *Establishing an NPPO*;
 - *Operating an NPPO*;
 - *Preparing a national phytosanitary capacity development strategy*;
 - *Managing relationships with stakeholders*;
 - *Resource mobilization: Promoting contracting party partnerships*; and
 - *Emergency preparedness: A guide for developing contingency plans for outbreaks of quarantine pests*.
- [11] The *Plant pest emergency simulation tool* (2024-002) will also be developed by the FAO elearning Academy under this project. The tool will complement the e-learning course on Emergency preparedness that is under development and will build on the guidelines and simulation exercises developed for TR4.
- [12] The IPPC Plant Health Campus will be discussed in more detail under **agenda item 14.1**.
- [13] The IPPC guide on *Risk-based inspection of imported consignments* (2018-022) is under development and is expected to be published in 2025, thanks to the financial contribution of the Republic of Korea.
- [14] The secretariat requested the assistance of the Technical Panel on Phytosanitary Treatments (TPPT) in finalizing the technical content for the draft *Wood packaging material heat treatment manual* (2017-043a) and the draft *Wood packaging material fumigation treatment manual* (2017-043b). TPPT members have the knowledge and expertise needed to address comments submitted during the peer review in 2023. In November 2024, the Standards Committee added the review of these two treatment manuals to the 2025 workplan of the TPPT.

4. Guides and training materials to be developed when resources are available (priority 2)

[15] The following IPPC guides and training materials have IC-approved specifications⁴ and are listed as priority level 2 on the ICD LOT. However, as of December 2024, the guides listed in this section are unfunded or only partially funded (work cannot be initiated until sufficient financial and secretariat resources are available):

- *Audits in the phytosanitary context* (2021-009);
- *Authorization of entities to perform phytosanitary actions* (2018-040);
- *National reporting obligations guide* (2018-022);
- *Procedures to maintain the phytosanitary security of consignments for export* (2018-028); and
- *Phytosanitary Capacity Evaluation (PCE) facilitator training materials* (2014-008).

[16] Additional information about the status of some of these topics may be found in the following papers:

- Developing guidance for the use of third-party entities (**agenda item 12.4**); and
- Update on the Phytosanitary Capacity Evaluation (**agenda item 14.3**).

5. Guides and training materials considered beneficial but not urgently needed (priority 3)

[17] The following IPPC guides and training materials are listed as priority level 3 on the ICD LOT:

- *Pest Free Areas e-learning course* (2017-044); and
- *Phytosanitary regulations and legislation for regulated articles guide* (2023-002).

[18] When a working group is established to develop the Pest Free Areas e-learning course, they will also be tasked with reviewing the guide and aligning its content with the revisions to International Standard for Phytosanitary Measures (ISPM) 4 (*Requirements for the establishment of pest free areas*) and ISPM 8 (*Determination of pest status in an area*), and to consider whether information removed from ISPM 26 (*Establishment of pest free areas for fruit flies (Tephritidae)*) should be added to the guide and e-learning course.⁵

[19] FAO Development Law Service and the Committee Linking Entrepreneurship-Agriculture-Development are currently developing an e-learning course on Phytosanitary legislation. When it is published, the IC will review it to determine whether it adequately covers this topic or whether additional materials are needed.⁶

6. Guides and training materials that cannot be developed at this time (priority 4)

[20] The following IPPC guides and training materials are pending CPM adoption of the revised Pest Risk Analysis standards:

- *Pest risk management guide* (2017-047); and
- *Assessing the risk of introduction of pests with seeds guide* (2018-036).

7. Sustainable funding required

[21] In October 2024, the Strategic Planning Group (SPG) discussed how the IPPC community could ensure that ISPMs and supporting guidance materials are developed together.⁷ The SPG recognized the value

⁴ Approved specifications: <https://www.ippc.int/en/about/core-activities/capacity-development/guides-and-training-materials/development-guides-and-training-materials/approved-specifications-icd/>

⁵ IC_2024_May

⁶ *ibid*

⁷ 06_SPG_2024_Oct: <https://www.ippc.int/en/publications/93863/>

of developing IPPC guides in parallel with ISPMs so that the guidance materials are available soon after the adoption of the standard. The SPG welcomed the proposal to provide stable funding of the IFU to support an efficient and timely development of guides.

[22] The IC further discussed the issue during their November 2024 meeting and supported the creation of a regular-budget position for the development of guides and training materials within the IFU. They further noted that this position would align with the recommendation of the 2015 IPPC Secretariat Enhancement Evaluation.⁸ This IC recommendation to CPM is detailed in **agenda item 9.2**.

Recommendations

[23] The CPM is invited to:

- (1) *approve* the List of Implementation and Capacity Development Topics;
- (2) *note* the importance of the timely development of guides and training materials in parallel with ISPMs, as raised by the SPG 2024 meeting; and
- (3) *request* the creation of a regular-budget position placed within IFU to develop guides and training materials, as per the 2015 enhancement evaluation recommendations (and as stated in **agenda item 9.2**).

⁸ IPPC Secretariat Enhancement Evaluation (2015): <https://www.ippc.int/en/publications/88354/>