



INVESTMENT PROSPECTUS

IPPC OBSERVATORY: LEVERAGING DATA FOR A STRONGER AND SMARTER PLANT HEALTH

IPPC Observatory – unlocking the power of data for stronger phytosanitary systems

Reliable data supports national authorities and the international community in risk management and evidence-based decision-making. This is essential for building stronger phytosanitary systems worldwide for safeguarding global food security, facilitating safe trade, and preserving biodiversity.

The implementation of the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC), the International Standards for Phytosanitary Measures (ISPMs), the recommendations of the IPPC governing body – the Commission on Phytosanitary Measures (CPM), and the IPPC Strategic Framework 2020–2030 Development Agenda Items (SF DAIs) by IPPC Contracting Parties may involve challenges, such as lack of technical capacity, financial or human resources or other relevant infrastructure. The extent to which countries have successfully implemented these frameworks, including their challenges and progress, remains unclear. Therefore, **the mandate of the IPPC Observatory is to have an insight into the uptake of the above mentioned frameworks and provide Contracting Parties with recommendations, backed by data, on ways to address implementation issues identified.**

What is the IPPC Observatory?

The **IPPC Observatory** is a continuous, systematic monitoring and evaluation system designed to analyze, monitor and evaluate the implementation of the convention, ISPMs, the recommendations of the CPM, and the IPPC Strategic Framework. Originally launched as the Implementation Review and Support System (IRSS) in 2011, it transitioned to the IPPC Observatory following a decision by CPM-16 in 2022, making it a core IPPC activity for monitoring, evaluation and learning.

BOX: Observatory in a global context

IPPC, along with Codex Alimentarius Commission and World Organization for Animal Health (WOAH), are recognized as one of the standard setting organizations by the World Trade Organization (WTO) Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) Agreement, known as the “three sisters”.

The three sisters all rely on monitoring, evaluation and learning to ensure the effective implementation of their standards and guidelines. The Observatory of each sister organization functions as a mechanism to assess progress, identify challenges, and enhance plant health, animal health, and global food safety..

What does IPPC Observatory do and why monitoring and evaluation for IPPC is important?

To support member countries in a world where cross-border issues are increasingly complex and trust between trading partners is critical, the IPPC Observatory tracks how international phytosanitary standards are implemented. Monitoring these standards serves multiple purposes:

- **Assess compliance and identify gaps** by evaluating the implementation of IPPC, ISPMs, and CPM recommendations.
- **Support decision-making** with data-driven insights to improve standard setting, implementation, and plant health strategies.
- **Promote best practices** by identifying success stories from Contracting Parties and fostering innovation.
- **Enhance transparency and collaboration** by providing a clear picture of compliance levels, challenges, and progress while strengthening partnerships among stakeholders.
- **Anticipate emerging risks** using data analytics to detect and prevent plant health threats proactively.

BOX: Success Story – the impact of IPPC Observatory

The inaugural IPPC study on e-commerce was conducted in 2012. The outcomes of this study led to the initiation of flagship IPPC activities on e-commerce, such as the adoption of the [CPM recommendation on internet trade \(e-commerce\) in plants and other regulated articles](#) by the CPM-7 in 2014. Moreover, the outcomes of the study informed the development of the IPPC Strategic Framework 2020–2030, where a dedicated [Development Agenda Item on Management of e-commerce and courier mail pathways](#) was included.

Building on its success, the IPPC Observatory launched its second Study on E-commerce was launched in August 2024, with an objective to assess the implementation of the CPM recommendation on e-commerce by IPPC Contracting Parties and establish baseline data for monitoring global phytosanitary e-commerce strategies.

What are the financial needs of the IPPC Observatory?

The CPM-16 (2022) requested to allocate baseline funds in the amount of 185 000 USD from the IPPC Secretariat regular programme budget to cover the fixed costs, including: establishing a full-time staff position; communication, advocacy and resource mobilization activities.

Moreover, additional external funding is required for thematic studies, surveys, and advanced analytical tools to enhance the IPPC Observatory's effectiveness.

How to support the IPPC Observatory?

The IPPC Contracting Parties and donor organizations can support the IPPC Observatory through:

- **Contributions to the IPPC Multi-donor trust fund** – funding activities dedicated to support IPPC Observatory.
- **In-kind contributions from IPPC Contracting Parties** – providing staff or technical support.
- **Partnership Arrangements** - Collaborating on joint initiatives with public and private sector stakeholders.

1. What are the expected outcomes?

Supporting the IPPC Observatory will result in:

- **Stronger phytosanitary systems** – Improved implementation of plant health standards, reducing crop losses and ensuring sustainable food production.
- **Informed policymaking** – Data-driven insights supporting evidence-based governance and resource allocation.
- **Enhanced transparency** – Reliable data on compliance levels, challenges, and successes.
- **Facilitated trade** – Strengthened phytosanitary measures enabling smoother global trade.
- **Reduced pest outbreaks** – Early detection and response mechanisms minimizing economic and environmental impacts.

More Information

Scan the QR codes below for additional resources:



IPPC Observatory webpage



Informational video



IPPC Observatory factsheet

Contact:

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