



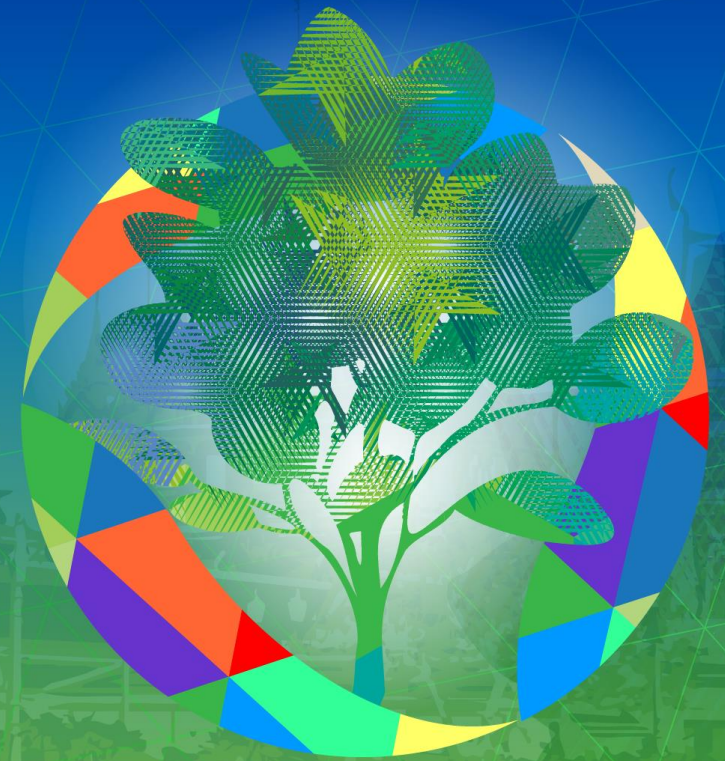
Food and Agriculture  
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# 37<sup>th</sup> Technical Consultations among Regional Plant Protection Organizations (TC-RPPO)

23–26 September 2025, Bangkok, Thailand



## Getting In Touch About CPM FG on Safe Provision of Food and Other Humanitarian Aid (FGSA)



## Background: Food and Other Humanitarian Aid & Plant-Health Risk

- Emergency consignments of food, seed, planting material, wood packaging and other articles often enter through expedited channels with limited phytosanitary oversight.
- Countries affected by natural disasters or conflict often lack capacity to detect and manage introduced pests.
- In response, the IPPC and its Commission on Phytosanitary Measures (CPM) established the Focus Group on Safe Provision of Food and Other Humanitarian Aid (FGSA) in 2022.
- The Focus Group developed the Specification 77 which it was approved by the CPM-19 (2025) with priority 1.
  - ✓ The Specification outlines the scope of a future ISPM (2021-020): providing guidance on how to ensure a safe delivery of humanitarian aid during emergencies while preventing the spread of plant pests, especially when the receiving country's phytosanitary systems are compromised or non-functional.







## Topic timeline

### 2021

- **From 2021 IPPC Call for Topics**, IPPC work programme includes for discussions topic “Safe provision of food and other humanitarian aid” (Draft specification 2021-020)\*

### 2022

- **CPM established the Focus Group (FG)** with approved Terms of Reference, which includes further review on the draft Specification, development of advocacy material, and collection of addition examples of pest introductions via humanitarian aid.

### 2023

- **First meeting of the Focus Group in Fiji**
- Preliminary discussions, stakeholder consultations, collection of examples, case studies and background work.
- Financial contribution was provided by Australia for the work of the FG

### 2024

- **CPM:** Revised Terms of Reference and extended the FG’s mandate to 2026.
- **Second group of the focus group in Barbados:** FG reconvenes to review consultation input and finalize a revised draft specification.
- **November:** Revised draft specification submitted to Standards Committee.

### 2025

- **March:** CPM-19 reviews FG outcomes; **Specification 77 is approved** and high priority assigned for developing an ISPM.
- **Third meeting of the Focus Group in Kenya:** FG met again to begin work on awareness materials (webinar, video) and case study collection.

\*Topic also submitted at the 2019 IPPC call for topics.

Submitted by Pacific Plant Protection Organisation (PPPO), with support from Caribbean Agricultural Health and Food Safety Agency (CAHFSA).



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## Achievements to Date

- CPM-19 approved the development of an ISPM for "Safe Provision of Humanitarian Aid in the Phytosanitary Context" with high priority after inclusive consultations.
- FGSA brought together a broad range of expertise including NPPOs, international agencies, and regional partners.
- Dialogues to strengthen collaboration with FAO, WFP, CODEX, and WOA. H.
- Topic visibility raised through Regional Workshops and strategic discussions across IPPC bodies.







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## From the Specification to the ISPM

The approved specification 77 now outlines the scope of the proposed standard that will:

- Provide operational guidance for managing pest risks during emergencies when it's not possible to fulfil core import functions
- Clarify how existing ISPMs apply in emergency situations and where additional tools are needed.
- Allow for issuance of a phytosanitary certificate where phytosanitary import requirements are unknown
- Lay the foundation for coordinated responses involving aid agencies, donors, and the private sector.
- The expert working group is tentatively planned for 1<sup>st</sup> / 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2026.





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## Next Steps in 2025

- June 2025 – FGSA met to:
  - Draft an action plan for cooperation with WOA, CODEX, WFP, and FAO, at first instance.
  - Began development of an IPPC webinar on Safe Aid (planned for 1<sup>st</sup> quarter of 2026).
  - Review script and planning for an IPPC informative video.
- Laying groundwork for the expert working group that will develop the ISPM.



Focus group webpage





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## Support and Participation Moving Forward

- IPPC contracting parties and RPPOs are encouraged to:
  - Share national examples of pest risks linked to humanitarian aid and send to the IPPC Secretariat.
  - Support the topic, note and implement the adopted CPM Recommendation R-09 on the “safe provisions of humanitarian aid in the phytosanitary context).
- Partner organizations can:
  - Contribute to inter-agency coordination and communications.
  - Collaborate on messaging for the upcoming video and outreach materials.
- The Final report of the focus group will be provided to the CPM-20 (2026)







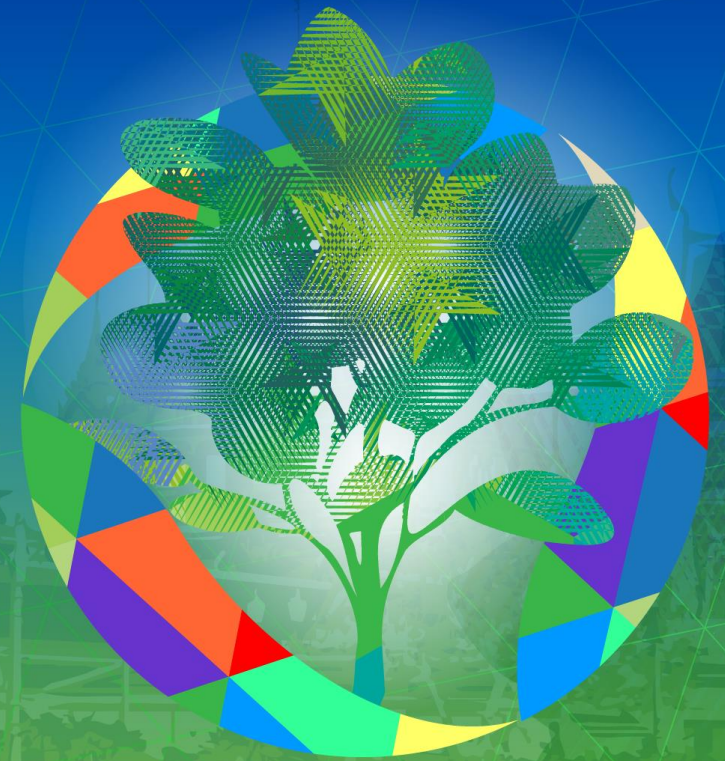
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# Thank you