



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations



International
Plant Protection
Convention

37th Technical Consultations among Regional Plant Protection Organizations (TC-RPPO)

23–26 September 2025, Bangkok, Thailand



Getting In Touch About CPM FG on Global Diagnostic Laboratory Networks (FG DLN)



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Background & Strategic Relevance

- One of the key development programmes of the IPPC Strategic Framework 2020–2030:
“Promote diagnostic laboratories and establish laboratory networks.”
- Global pest spread requires fast, accurate identification to trigger responses
- Many NPPOs lack access to reliable diagnostics or harmonized protocols
- A coordinated laboratory network can improve global readiness and harmonization





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Why It Matters

- Early pest detection is only as good as the diagnostics behind it
- Delays in accurate pest ID can cause:
 - Spread of invasive species
 - Trade disruptions
 - Ineffective or delayed phytosanitary action
- Global diagnostic capacity is uneven:
 - Many NPPOs rely on external labs or outdated protocols
 - No formal structure exists for knowledge or protocol sharing
 - Lack of expertise
- A network can close the gap, improve response time, and promote harmonization





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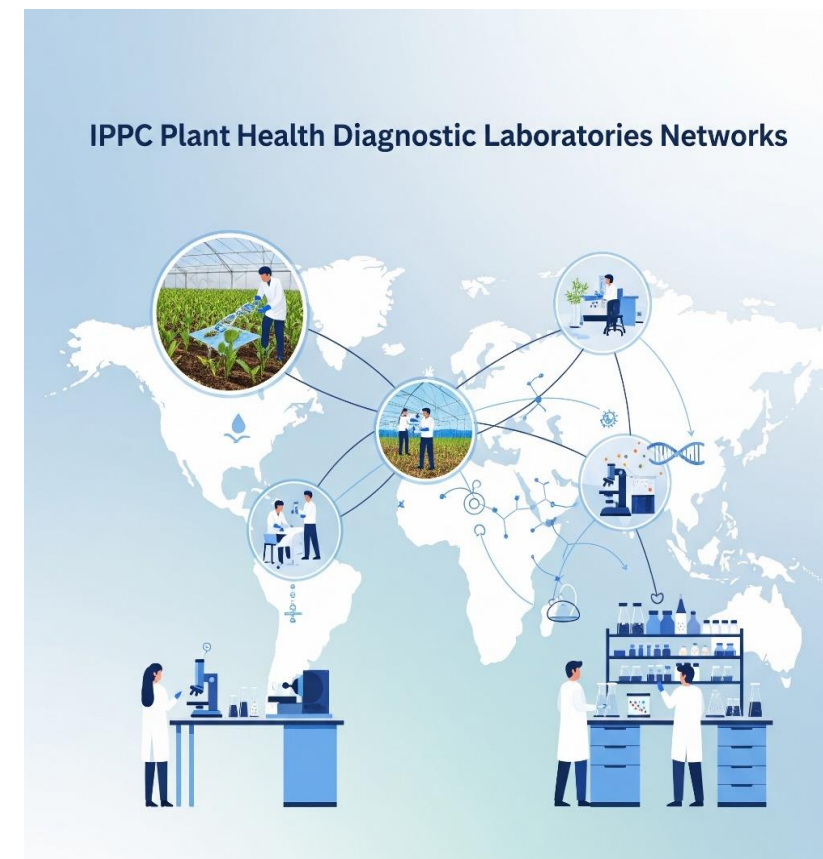
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Focus Group Mandate & Scope

- Focus Group established by CPM-17 (2023), term extended until CPM-22 (2028). However, its work did not yet start.
- It will operate under Terms of Reference adopted by CPM-18 (2024)
- **Objectives:**
 - ✓ To assist in gathering information for the design of a global network of diagnostic laboratory services and diagnostic protocols for plant pests.
 - ✓ Also, to analyze the results of an assessment on the current “state of the art on diagnostic laboratories network in the world, successes and gap analysis” provided by an international consultant.
 - ✓ The focus group is also to define the scope of what would constitute an “IPPC laboratory diagnostic networking” and develop an implementation action plan for this IPPC Strategic Framework 2020 – 2030 development agenda item.
- Reporting to CPM via Bureau, with inputs from IPPC Strategic Planning Group (SPG)





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Foundational Work in Progress

- **South Africa based in-kind consultant** supporting background analysis on information gathering on existing network
- Key activities:
 - Literature review of diagnostic networks
 - Interviews with NPPOs, RPPOs, and leading networks of organizations
 - Case studies of successful networks
 - Conduct gap analysis
- Draft of first findings and discussions to be presented at to the First Focus Group meeting and then to the SPG meeting (October 2025)





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Current Activities and Timeline

- **Call for Experts launched: June 2025 – Extended call until 10 August.**
 - Open to NPPOs and RPPOs
 - ✓ Ensure experts have the proper time to dedicate to the focus group and to this development agenda item
 - Bureau will review and appoint members
- **First Focus Group Meeting: October 2025 (in person)**
 - Kick-off technical discussion using consultant's report
 - Define priorities, approach, and expected deliverables





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Vision & Ways to Contribute

- Target: a practical, scalable global laboratory network for diagnostics
- Expected outcomes by 2026, 2027 and final report in 2028:
 - Recommendations to CPM
 - A phased implementation framework
- Stakeholder engagement:
 - Nominate experts
 - Share national/regional practices
 - Participate in technical consultation rounds





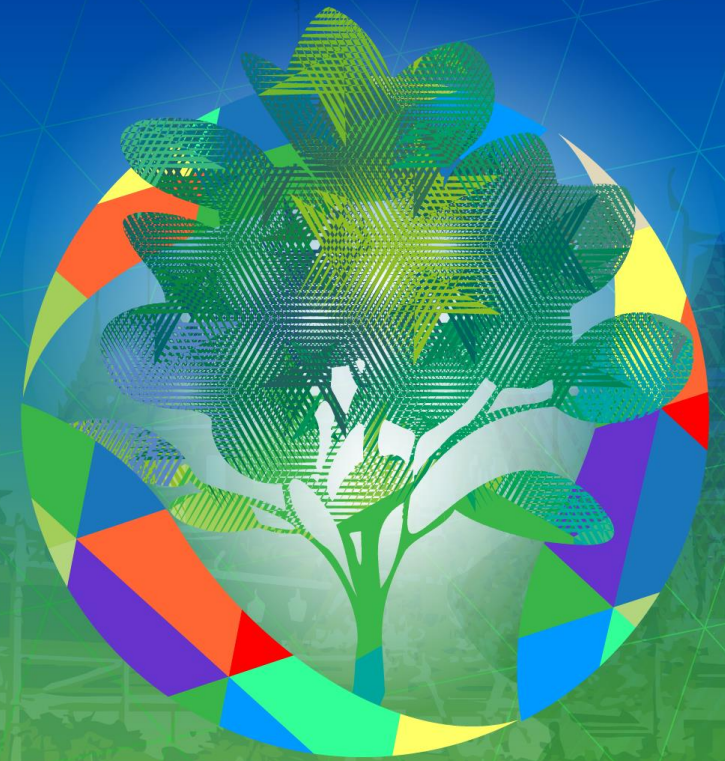
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Thank you