



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations



International
Plant Protection
Convention

ACTION PLAN FOR THE AFRICA PHYTOSANITARY PROGRAMME (APP), 2025-2026

The Africa Phytosanitary Programme (APP) is an initiative of the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC) and the African Union Commission on Agriculture, Rural Development, Blue Economy, and Sustainable Environment (ARBE). It aims to strengthen the resilience of Africa's phytosanitary systems by empowering phytosanitary officers with digital tools for enhanced surveillance of plant pests of regulatory, economic and environmental significance

In Africa, pests destroy 30-60 percent of crops annually, a problem exacerbated by climate change, increased global travel and trade and population growth. The APP was designed to contribute to limiting pest impacts on agriculture and will be implemented in all 54 countries in Africa. APP implementation commenced in September 2023 with a Train-the-Trainer (ToT) workshop in Cairo, Egypt, for 11 pilot phase countries. The second phase of nine additional countries was launched with a ToT workshop in June 2025 in South Africa.

This two-year APP work plan was developed in response to a recommendation by the Nineteenth Session of the Commission on Phytosanitary Measures (CPM-19) in March 2025. The CPM Bureau reviewed and endorsed it in June 2025 and it will be presented at CPM-20 (2026) for noting and next steps.

APP Action Plan, 2025-2026: Planned activities with tentative dates

Activity	2025		2026	
	Semester 1	Semester 2	Semester 1	Semester 2
Output 1: Capacity development				
Activity 1.1 Conduct two Refresher Trainings for APP pilot phase countries	20 -24 January 2025, Douala, Cameroon (French), 27- 31 January 2025, Nairobi, Kenya (English)			
Activity 1.2 Conduct a train-the-trainer (ToT) workshop for national professionals (phytosanitary inspectors) from the nine APP second phase countries, equipping them APP survey protocols and digital tools	23 -27 June 2025 (Mbombela, South Africa)			
Activity 1.3 <i>1.3.1</i> Conduct in-country training for phytosanitary inspectors in seven APP pilot phase countries, on surveillance, phytosanitary inspections (including import inspections), pest risk analysis (PRA), pest diagnostics and identification and information management systems. <i>(4 countries had their national training in 2024 and January 2025). Countries to submit costed proposals by July 2025</i>		August - December 2025	January-June 2026	
<i>1.3.2</i> Conduct in-country training for all nine (9) APP second-phase countries. All countries are to submit budgeted national training proposals by July 2025.		August-December 2025	January-June 2026	

1.3.3 Conduct one (1) follow-up training for second phase countries			January 2026	
Activity 1.4 Conduct a study tour to a phytosanitary laboratory and training for diagnostic laboratory staff in phase two countries (to explore with WAVE)			10-13 February 2026	
Activity 1.5 Purchase and distribute tablets, equipment and field survey materials to APP countries	June 2025	August-September 2025	January-June 2026	
Activity 1.6 Support three IPPC Secretariat staff to attend a USDA-APHIS training to transfer APP GIS-Hub management and maintenance responsibilities to the secretariat	12-16 May 2025			
Activity 1.7 Support countries to implement the APP, strengthen NPPO ownership and capacity for local resource mobilization	January- June 2025	July- December 2025	January-June 2026	July- December 2026
Activity 1.8 Develop survey protocols for pests identified by phase two countries	January- June 2025	July- December 2025	January-March 2026	
Activity 1.9 Develop maps and web experience pages for priority pests of phase 2 countries		May- December 2025	January-June 2026	
Activity 1.10 Conduct virtual training on the APP GIS HUB, for all countries		30 July 2025		

Activity 1.11 Organise meetings between IPPC Secretariat and COLEAD on Senegal's inclusion in APP phase 2		June- August 2025		
Activity 1.12 Organise a meeting between the IPPC Secretariat and the NPPO of Canada		July 2025		
Activity 1.13 Develop 2025 APP Annual Report			January 2026	
Activity 1.14 Develop 2026 APP Annual Report			January 2027	
Activity 1.15 Collaborate with FAO Digital FAO and Agro-Informatics Division (CSI) to support the IT component of APP (maps, FAO layers, ESRI license, user account management)	April- June 2025	July- December 2025	January- June 2026	July- December 2026
Output 2: Regional and global coordination				
Activity 2.1 Organise a three-day regional strategic planning and donor workshop to develop a strategic plan for APP implementation, national phytosanitary capacity development programmes and mobilize resources. Participants will include stakeholders mentioned in 2.6 below.			23-25 June 2026	
Activity 2.2 All countries develop national action plans (2025-2027) for APP implementation		July- December 2025		

Activity 2.3 Develop and/or translate selected IPPC training manuals, pest survey protocols and videos into Arabic, French and Portuguese to support countries in developing harmonized operation manuals for phytosanitary inspectors in APP countries	January- June 2025	July- December 2025	January- June 2026	July- December 2026
Activity 2.4 Establish an early warning regional coordination system, linking it to POARS		5 November 2025		
Activity 2.5 Develop and disseminate communication and awareness raising materials e.g APP web page, key messages, fact sheets, videos, success stories and opinion articles	January- June 2025	July- December 2025	January- June 2026	July- December 2026
Activity 2.6 Organise coordination meetings and events with key stakeholders, including NPPOs, RECS, RPPOs and APP technical, coordination and communication working groups	January- June 2025	July- December 2025	January- June 2026	July- December 2026
Activity 2.7 Develop a mechanism to transition APP from a regional (Africa) to a global phytosanitary programme (GPP), supported by the IPPC, partners and contracting parties		December 2025		