



# TRACES NT and IPPC e-Phyto Hub facilitating safe trade and economic development

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# Outline

## **TRACES and plant health**

- what is TRACES
- when plants were introduced

## **TRACES and IPPC ePhyto Hub**

- electronic phytosanitary certificates in EU legislation
- key Hub ePhyto features for TRACES
- state of play of data exchanges
- facilitating Safe Trade and Economic Development



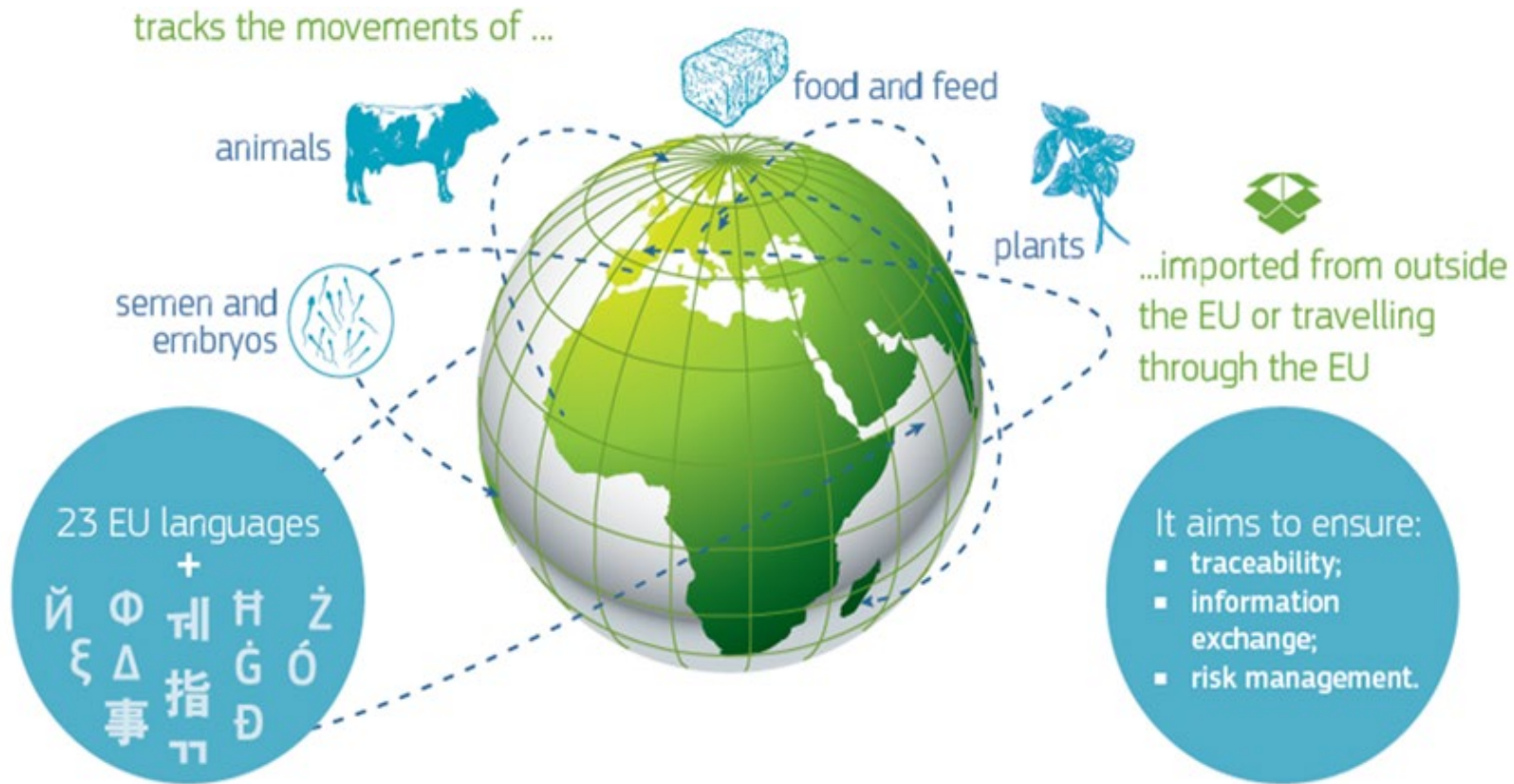
# TRACES NT and plant health

- what is TRACES
- when plants were introduced

# What's TRACES



European  
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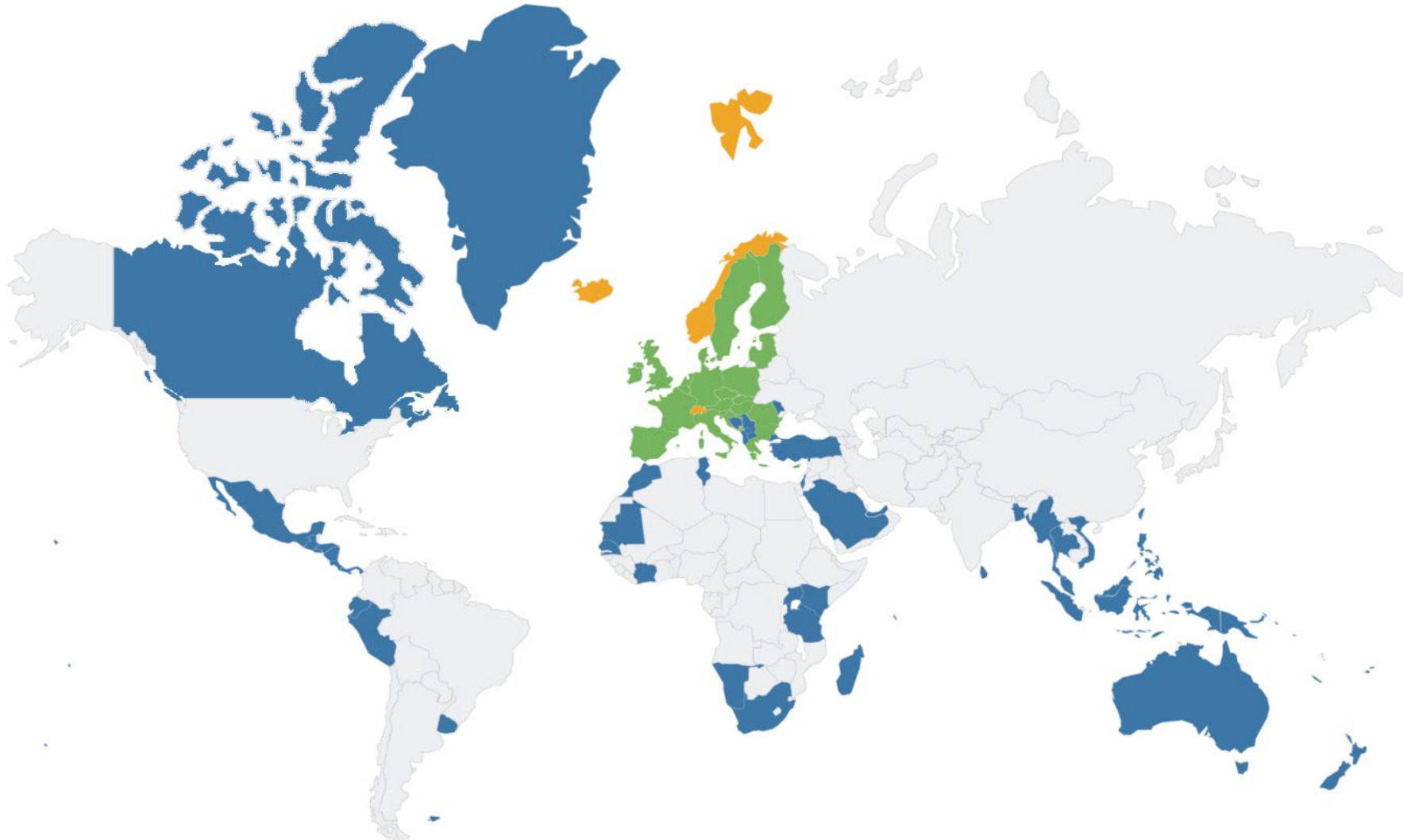


## SPS certification

- EU imports of live animals, animal products, food and feed of non-animal origin and **plants**
- intra-EU trade in live animals and certain animal products
- EU exports of live animals, certain animal products and **plants**

## Border clearance

- live animals
- animal products
- food and feed of non-animal origin
- **plants**



## 92 countries and overseas territories:

- 27 EU countries (+ NI)
- 64 non-EU countries

## 87177 users

2/3 operators

1/3 authorities

## 4.1 million documents

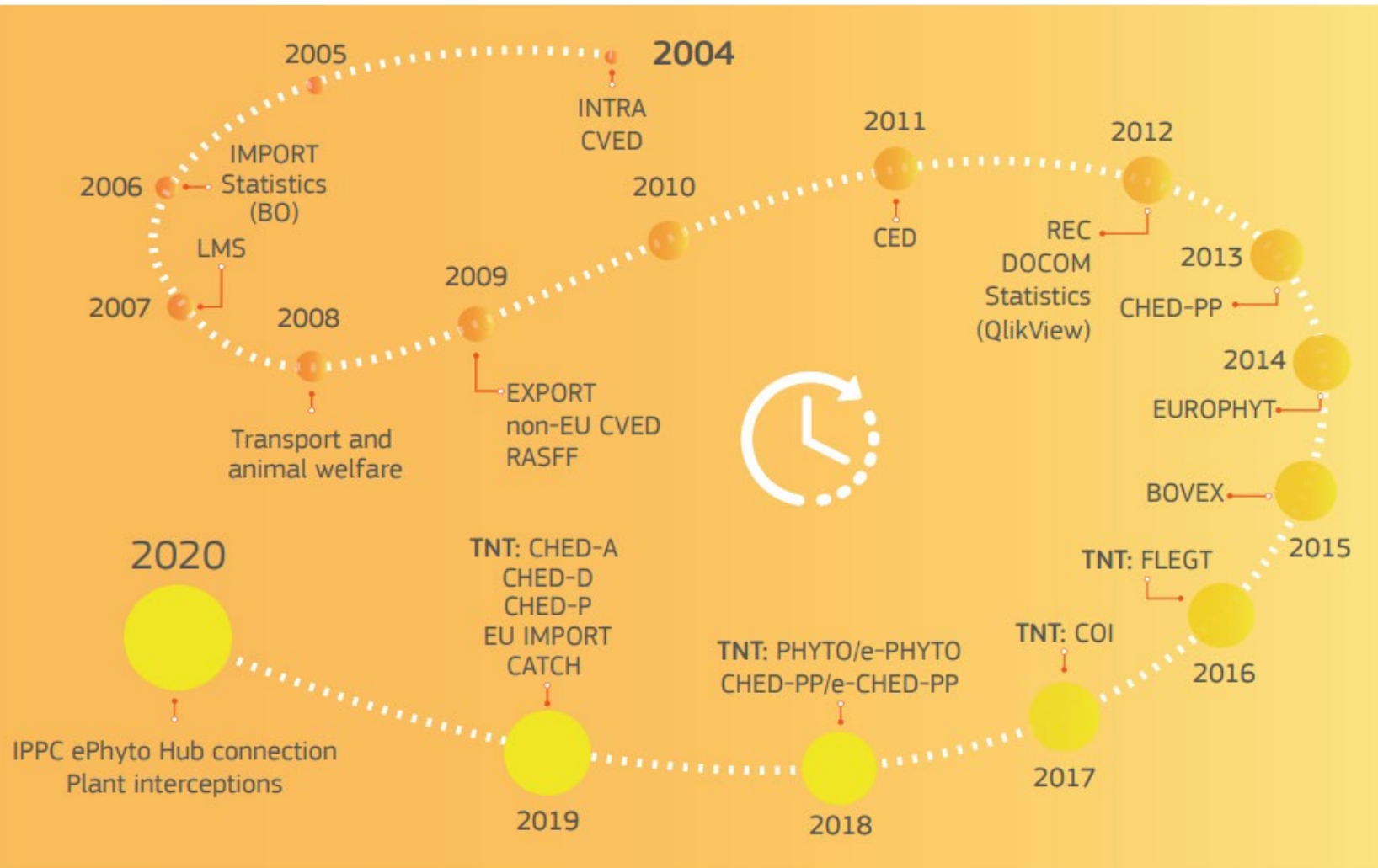
58,5% CHEDs (44% CHED-PP)

7.7% IPPC ephytos (EU and non-EU)

0,72% phytos (EU and non-EU)



## TRACES timeline



2013: first entry document for plants in TRACES Classic (voluntary basis)

2018: migration of plant documents to TRACES-NT (voluntary basis)

14/12/2019: entry documents mandatory

2020: TRACES-NT connection to Hub



## TRACES and IPPC ePhyto Hub

- electronic phytosanitary certificates in EU legislation
- key Hub ephyto features for TRACES
- state of play of data exchanges
- facilitating safe trade and economic development



## electronic phytosanitary certificates in EU legislation

### ■ IMSOC and eIDAS Regulations (EU standards for e-signature and e-seal)

#### **To the EU**

- In TRACES
  - Electronic signature of certifying officer
  - Advanced or qualified electronic seal of the issuing authority
- in exchange with TRACES (through the Hub)
  - Advanced or qualified electronic seal of the issuing authority (eIDAS compliant or equivalent – digital certificate issued by a TSP outside "EU trusted list")

#### **From the EU**

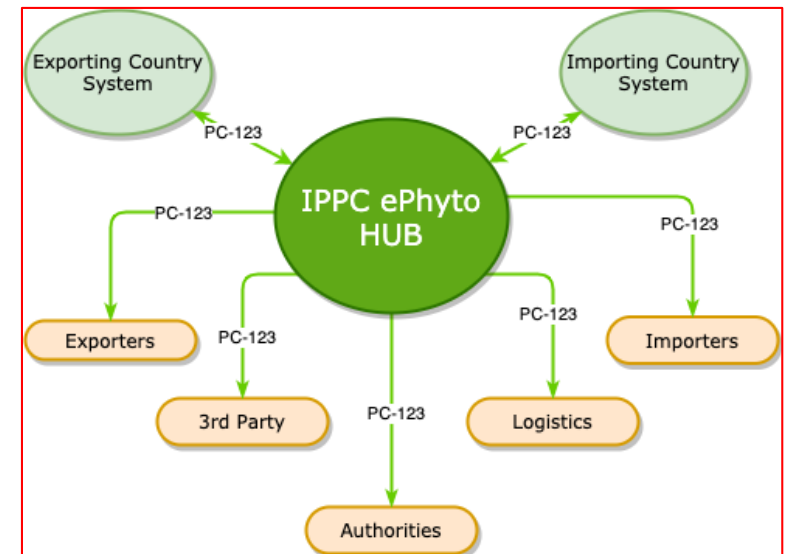
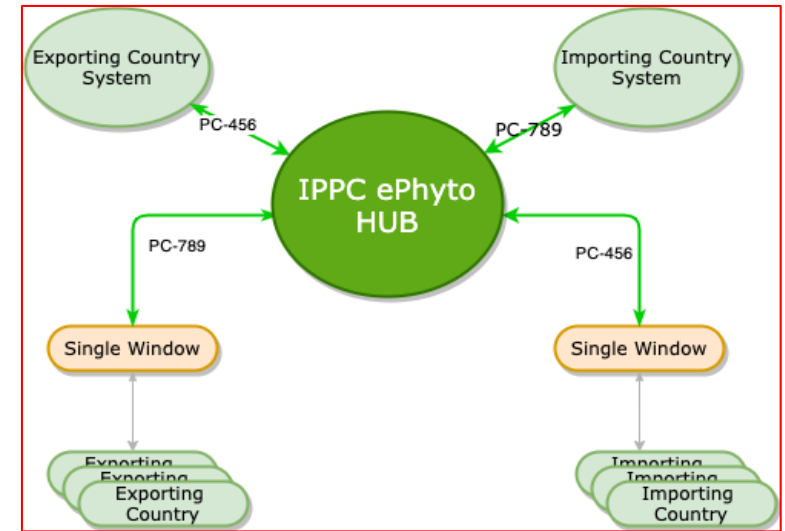
- In TRACES (and submitted through Hub)
  - Electronic signature of certifying officer;
  - Advanced or qualified electronic seal of the issuing authority;
- in Member States' systems in exchange with TRACES (and submitted through Hub)
  - Electronic signature of certifying officer;
  - Transmitted to TRACES at the time of signature and transmission sealed by advanced or qualified electronic seal of the issuing authority.



# Key Hub ephyto features for TRACES



- **Channel delegation: Single Window systems can handle sending/receiving ePhytos on behalf of countries they manage.**
  - Countries can send ePhytos to any Member States through the HUB, and the message will be pulled by Traces and delivered to the intended Member State.
  - Any Member States can send ePhytos to countries from or through Traces, and the message will be pushed by Traces through the HUB and delivered to the intended importing country.
- **Channel forwarding: a country is able to specify multiple recipients on the ePhyto envelope while sending it to the destination country.**
- **Implementation of electronic signature in GeNS**



## State of play of data exchanges: IPPC ePhyto to the EU (CH+NI)

- TRACES is connected to Hub via a single connection since May 2020 for all MSs and NI (for CH since April 2022)
- > 735 000 (e)phytos since connection;
- > 39 000 (e)phytos in August 2022 (>1/3 of Hub monthly exchanges);
- Up to more than 2000 (e)phytos per day;
- **23** third countries sending data in Production (**16** in paperless mode)
- **7** third countries testing data transmission



European  
Commission

## State of play of data exchanges: phytos to the EU

e-Phytos replacing paper phytos		Paper phytos required
produced inside TRACES-NT	data transmitted through Hub	data transmitted through Hub
Guadeloupe	Argentina	Dominican Republic
Guyane	Cameroon	Kenya
Martinique	Chile	Mexico
Mayotte	Colombia	Nepal
la Réunion Island	Costa Rica	Samoa
Tunisia	Guatemala	Panama
UK(GB)	Fiji	Madagascar
	Israel	
	Jamaica	
	Morocco	
	New Zealand	
	Senegal	
	South Africa	
	Sri Lanka	
	Uganda	
	USA	

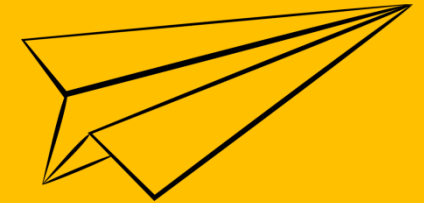
## State of play of data exchanges: phytos from the EU

- **PHYTOS for Export “produced inside TRACES”**
  - Progressively used so far by FR, CY, HU, MT, DK, IT, PT, CZ, (PL) since early Feb.2021;
  - **Member States equipped for digitally signing phytos for export:**  
FR, CY, HU, MT, DK, IT, PT (AT, EE, FI, LV, LT, LU, PL, SE, SI)
  - countries receiving/accepting EU ephytos through Hub: US, Argentina, Costa Rica, Chile, Morocco, Mexico
  - countries testing data pulling: Australia, Uzbekistan, Republic of Korea, UK(GB), New Zealand
- **PHYTOS for Export “submitted to TRACES”**
  - Spain in production since early Dec. 2021
    - >2500 ephytos so far, up to 350 per month, destined to US, Chile, Costa Rica and Argentina
  - Testing ongoing for Belgium, Ireland and Germany.
  - Member States in charge of procuring their own e-seal services and of testing transmission

## Facilitating safe trade and economic development: key challenges

- **Acknowledging that the ePhyto Solution does not guarantee countries' phytosanitary compliance**
- **Achieving paperless mode:**
  - Countries' ability to digitally sign xml for phytos to the EU (national systems and geNS)
  - Acceptance of EU ephytos for export
    - ✓ "Technical" acceptance: pending Hub connection, TRACES online verification of certificates or interim solution (e-signed pdf from EU exporter to non-EU importer) - development of a national interface to process certification data (including signed data)
    - ✓ "Legal" constraints
    - ✓ State of play: paperless achieved with some trade partners - Interim solution with GB - Member States' bilateral contacts replaced by COM coordination

# Thank you



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<https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/tracesnt/index>

[https://ec.europa.eu/food/animals/traces\\_en#electronic-certification](https://ec.europa.eu/food/animals/traces_en#electronic-certification)

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