



PHYTOSANITARY CAPACITY EVALUATION
FACILITATORS CERTIFIED BY THE IPPC SECRETARIAT

(Prepared by the IPPC Secretariat)

Updated 2022-09-29

- [1] The Phytosanitary Capacity Evaluation (PCE) is designed to help a country identify both strengths and weaknesses in its existing and planned phytosanitary systems. PCE facilitators were trained by experts with over 10 years of phytosanitary experience. The IPPC Secretariat considers these trainers as certified PCE facilitators. The IPPC Secretariat used trainers to deliver five regional PCE facilitators training courses which 40 trainees completed. Those who have satisfactorily completed this course must undergo a certification process, of which 4 have completed to date.
- [2] The biographies of these IPPC certified PCE facilitators are provided below (by alphabetical order).

<p>Ringolds Arnitis</p> <p>Ringolds Arnitis has long experience in plant health/plant protection. He has been for more than 10 years Director of the State Plant Protection Service in Latvia. Among his responsibilities he was responsible for the creation and development of the phytosanitary system in Latvia. From 2011 to 2014 he has held the position of Director General of the European and Mediterranean Plant Protection Organization (EPPO). From 2010 onwards he has been working as international consultant in different FAO, World Bank, EU Technical assistance and training projects on international procedures, standards and practical application of phytosanitary measures.</p>	
<p>Sarah Brunel</p> <p>Sarah Brunel is a French agronomist with over 18 years of experience in the field of environmental protection and plant health. She started designing and implementing the first local programme in France on invasive alien plants, engaging stakeholders and working with the media. She worked for the European and Mediterranean Plant Protection Organization (EPPO) as a scientific officer on several key topics including invasive alien plants, pest risk analysis, climatic modelling, information service and phytosanitary procedures. She was an expert for the Bern Convention, the European Environment Agency and the European Food Safety Authority. She joined the IPPC as Implementation Facilitation Officer in late 2014, and was in charge of the implementation of the STDF 401 project aiming at training PCE facilitators and coordinate among other tasks PCEs and projects.</p>	
<p>Mekki Chouibani</p> <p>Mekki Chouibani is a Moroccan national, he was trained as an agronomy engineer of INA Paris Grignon (France) and IAV Hassan II (Morocco). Phytobacteriologist, he was in charge of the establishment of diagnostic laboratories, integrated crop protection, monitoring of crop health status and phytosanitary extension within the National Plant Protection Organization in Morocco. He was also in charge of the phytosanitary protection of the forest, the training of the plant protection executives as well as of research of alternative methods to methyl bromide. From 2001 to 2008 he was the Head of the Technical Control and Plant Protection Division, in charge of phytosanitary control, pesticide registration, major struggles, certification and certification of seeds and seedlings and protection of plant varieties. From 2008 to 2011, responsible for plant protection in charge of phytosanitary control, pesticide registration and major struggles. He is currently the Executive Director of the Plant Protection Organization in the Middle East. Mekki Chouibani facilitated the PCEs in Guinea and in Tunisia.</p>	

<p>Magdalena Gonzáles Arroyo</p> <p>Magda Gonzalez Arroyo is a citizen of Costa Rica. She has been working for the NPPO for over 30 years in phytosanitary certification programs, preparation of procedures and legislation related to phytosanitary issues. She was the Director of the NPPO for four years and is currently Head of the Department of Standards and Regulations. She was for eight years one of the Latin America representatives in the Standards Committee of the IPPC. She was a member of the WTO's Standards and Trade Development Facility (STDF) in 2006-2008 and also participated in the negotiating team of Costa Rica on various free trade agreements (e.g. Central America - USA, EU, China, Singapore). She currently serves as a member of the Implementation and Capacity Development Committee (IC) of the IPPC and is involved in the global initiative programme on Maximum Residue Limit (MRLs) in relation to minor uses of pesticides.</p>	
<p>Francisco Gutierrez</p> <p>Francisco Gutierrez is the current Technical Director of the Plant Health Department of the Belize Agricultural Health Authority, a post he has held for the past eighteen. In his current post he has the responsibility of managing and coordinating the activities of the department, including pest surveillance programmes, pest diagnostic services, export certification, phytosanitary import services, pest risk analysis, maintenance of pest free areas, eradication, and internal quarantine as well as issues dealing with phytosanitary legislation. In this role he represents his organization in various national and regional technical committees involved in trade-related matters, food security and biosecurity.</p> <p>He has been quite involved in IPPC related activities in the past fifteen years. From 2008 to 2014 he was the representative for Latin America and the Caribbean in the CPM Bureau of the IPPC for three consecutive terms. In 2017, he was selected as the representative for Latin America and the Caribbean for the newly established Implementation and Capacity Development Committee of the CPM (2018-2020). He was again nominated for a second period in this committee. In 2016 he was selected as a participant at the workshop for Phytosanitary Capacity Evaluation (PCE) Facilitators in Punta Leona, Costa Rica under the Standards Trade and Development Facility (STDF) project 401 where participants were trained to broaden and enhance their expertise in facilitating the application of the PCE tool. In 2019, he facilitated a full-fledged PCE for the NPPO of Nicaragua and is now a certified PCE evaluator.</p>	
<p>Jeffrey Jones</p> <p>Jeffrey Jones is an international phytosanitary consultant with extensive experience. He hails from the Caribbean where he worked as the head of the Plant Protection Department in Barbados for many years. He worked with the IPPC Secretariat for 12 years as the senior officer managing the phytosanitary capacity development programme from 1998 to 2010. He spearheaded the development of the various stages of the PCE and applied it for projects in dozens of countries. Since leaving the IPPC Secretariat, he continues to provide support to the IPPC's phytosanitary capacity development programme drafting global manuals (7 to date). He also does consultancies with international organizations such as the WTO, the Inter-American Development Bank and the Institute for Cooperation in Agriculture (IICA).</p>	
<p>Ketevan Lomsadze</p> <p>Ketevan Lomsadze is a national of Georgia working in the field of plant protection since 2006. Her working experience started in the Georgian Plant Protection Organization, where she worked as a main specialist for different divisions of the NPPO. Later she contributed to the institutional building of the Georgian NPPO through the EU funded program "Comprehensive Institutional Building of the National Food Agency" at the Ministry of Agriculture of Georgia. She has been serving as an Implementation Facilitation Officer of the Implementation Facilitation Unit of the IPPC since 2015.</p>	

<p>Alphonsine Louhouari Tokozaba</p> <p>Alphonsine Louhouari Tokozaba is a national of the Republic of Congo, working at the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries, specifically at the Directorate of Plant Protection. She was trained as an Agronomist Engineer and is the Director of Plant Protection since June 2018), the Official Contact Point of the IPPC for her country, and an African representative of the IPPC Standards Committee. She is also a consultant to the Inter-State Committee for Pesticides in Central Africa (CPAC), the regulatory body for pesticide management in Central Africa. She coordinated several FAO phytosanitary projects, in particular one related to Fall Armyworm. She facilitated the PCE in Madagascar.</p>	
<p>Chiluba Mwape</p> <p>Chiluba Mwape is a Zambian national with over 20 years of experience working on international trade issues and SPS measures at national, regional and global levels. He holds an MSc in Agriculture – Crop Protection and BSc in Agriculture – Crop Production. He spent 17 years rising through the ranks as an SPS officer serving the Government of the Republic of Zambia under the Ministry of Agriculture – Plant Quarantine and Phytosanitary Services. He has worked as an Sanitary and Phytosanitary Programme Officer at the Southern African Development Community (SADC) Secretariat providing strategic guidance to regional SPS structures and coordinating implementation of activities related to the World Trade Organization Sanitary and Phytosanitary Agreement, International Plant Protection Convention, <i>Codex Alimentarius</i> Commission and the World Organization for Animal Health. Currently, Chiluba Mwape is working as an Agricultural Value Chain Expert under the Trade and Commodities Directorate of the Centre for Agriculture and Biosciences International. He facilitated the application of the Phytosanitary Capacity Evaluation (PCE) tool for the National Plant Protection Organizations (NPPOs) of Kenya and Somalia.</p>	
<p>Ana Peralta Ottonello</p> <p>Ana Peralta is native of Uruguay and agronomist with 40 years of experience in the field of plant protection and phytosanitary regulations. She began her career at the national level as a university professor in plant pathology and continued as director of phytosanitary laboratories of the NPPO of Uruguay. She has worked for more than two decades in different positions and groups for the Southern Cone Regional Plant Protection Organization (COSAVE), acting for 8 years as Coordinating Secretary. In this position she has been closely involved in the activities of the IPPC. Between 2010 and 2016 she worked for the IPPC Secretariat as a Senior Capacity Building Specialist and was responsible for the management of implementation projects and activities. She is currently an international phytosanitary consultant.</p>	
<p>Orlando Sosa</p> <p>Orlando Sosa is a national of Belize with over 22 years of progressive experience in the phytosanitary regulatory field. He started with field experience managing the Belize NPPO and establishing phytosanitary programs based on the earliest ISPMs at the time. He has been closely involved in standards development having served on the first Standards Committee of the IPPC. From 2003 to 2018, he worked for the IPPC Secretariat and managed several key initiatives including leading the development of the PCE through its current iteration, the development of the IPPC building national capacity building strategy, the IPPC capacity development programme and the Implementation Review and Support System. He currently serves as agricultural officer for the FAO Sub-regional Office for Eastern Africa (SFE) based in Addis Ababa.</p>	

Fitzroy White

Fitzroy White is a Jamaican national. After graduating from the College of Agriculture in Portland, Jamaica, with an Associates of Science, Fitzroy Joined the Government Service in the Ministry of Agriculture in 1991. He served on many committees relating directly and indirectly to plant health, including Jamaica's National Agriculture Health and Food Safety committee, and the Regional Technical Working Group on Emergency Response Preparedness Plans and Mechanisms for Response. While in the Plant Quarantine Department in Jamaica as a Senior Plant Quarantine / SPS Enquiry Point Officer, Fitzroy White was instrumental in the development of the current Phytosanitary Plant Health System in Jamaica. He has also influenced the development of Plant Health Professional in over 14 Caribbean territories, by being one of the main trainers in the Regional Plant Quarantine Principle and Procedure Training for the past 8 years.

In 2018 he assisted the Island of Barbados to complete their first Phytosanitary Capacity Evaluation.

After serving the Civil Service in Jamaica for over 27 years, Fitzroy is now pursuing his desire to be a leader in the gourmet mushroom production in Jamaica.

He facilitated the PCE in Fiji, Mongolia and Nepal.

