



## International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC)

### Implementation and Facilitation Unit (IFU) update to the Implementation and Capacity

#### Development Committee (IC)

#### January, February and March 2025

**Keep up to date on the latest IFU activities:**

Visit the [IPP calendar](#), [Announcements](#) and [Calls](#)

Read the IPPC Newsletters [January 2025 \(#39\)](#), [February 2025 \(#40\)](#) and [March 2025 \(#41\)](#)

Consult the [IFU Organigramme](#)

#### ***The nineteenth Commission on Phytosanitary Measures (CPM-19)***

Contact: [Sarah Brunel](#)

CPM-19 was held from 17 to 21 March 2025. Please find the updated information on each of the Implementation and Capacity Development activities discussed during the CPM in the following sections on this paper.

On 17 March, the [IPPC Plant Health Campus](#) was launched during an event that brought together CPM members, experts and representatives from NPPOs, RPPOs, and FAO colleagues. The session was opened by Deputy Director General (DDG) Beth Bechdol, DDG Maurizio Martina, his excellency Martin Selmayr (Ambassador of the European Union) and closed by Director Yurdi Yasmi.

Draft reports, all the meeting documents and recordings are available [here](#), and presentations for the side sessions including *NPPOs orientation* and *Innovative research and tools to prevent and contain Fusarium TR4 spread* are also available on [IPP](#).

#### ***Capacity development tools and the IPPC Observatory***

##### **Pest outbreak alert and response system (POARS)**

Contact: [Camilo Beltran Montoya](#)

At CPM-19, critical decisions were taken to advance the operationalization of the POARS. The Commission approved the establishment of the Steering Group as the long-term governance body, reporting directly to the CPM Bureau and managed by the IFU. The CPM also noted the analysis on National Reporting Obligations (NROs) and the recommendation to keep pest reporting under the IC, for better coordination with other reporting functions.

New tools were also launched: [Monthly Pest Reporting Summaries](#), offering a regular digest of recent pest reports; a new [Pest Alert](#) section on the IPP, and the first official alert for *Clavibacter nebraskensis*, marking the start of real-time pest alerts to inform the community and trigger responses. These developments mark a shift from conceptual design to active deployment, reinforcing the IPPC community's capacity to act early and collaboratively in the face of emerging pest threats.

##### **Phytosanitary Capacity Evaluation (PCE)**

Contact: [Camilo Beltran Montoya](#)

CPM-19 reaffirmed the importance of the PCE as a key tool for identifying and addressing national phytosanitary capacity gaps. Several contracting parties called for increased support for PCE implementation in Africa. The [GLO/949 project](#), scheduled to conclude on 30 June 2025, has delivered significant results: 11 PCEs conducted, the Plant Health Campus launched with eight new eLearning courses, and target countries received tailored guidance to engage donors and develop project proposals to fund the implementation of their capacity development strategies.

Additionally, eight new PCE facilitators were certified by the IPPC Secretariat, a milestone formally acknowledged by the Commission. Upcoming activities include PCEs in Lao PDR, Pakistan, and Viet Nam, as well as technical improvements to the PCE methodology.

**ePhyto**Contact: [Gianluca Nuzzo](#)

CPM-19 noted the successful implementation of the IPPC ePhyto Solution thus far and discussed the sustainable funding for it. CPM agreed on the continuation of the current weighting in the funding model of two-thirds base fee and one-third usage fee.

During the CPM, the results of a study on cost-benefits of ePhyto by the FAO Investment Centre and the FAO Markets and Trade Division was presented. For more information about the study, please see [Investing in trade digitalization: the case of ePhyto](#).

**IPPC Observatory**Contact: [Rokhila Madaminova](#)

**12 Feb.** The IC Subgroup on IPPC Observatory and the IC Team on E-commerce joint virtual meeting was held to discuss the preliminary results of the IPPC Observatory Survey on E-commerce, update on the progress of the analysis, as well as the study report.

In the second half of the meeting, the IC Subgroup on IPPC Observatory was briefed on the preliminary results of the IPPC Observatory survey on AMR, the observatory investment prospectus, and overall updates in view of CPM-19.

**AMR survey**Contact: [Descartes Koumba](#)

The IPPC Secretariat conducted two surveys on antimicrobial use (AMU) in plant protection, revealing that 66% of respondents use no antibiotics in plant protection. Key antibiotics identified include Streptomycin and Kasugamycin, primarily targeting bacterial diseases in vegetables and fruits. Fungicide use is widespread, with all respondents confirming their application across various crops. The surveys highlighted the need for further scientific studies on antimicrobial resistance (AMR) and CPM-19 recommended integrating AMU data into the FAO's InFARM platform to streamline data collection. The CPM also agreed the two surveys to be closed, with gratitude expressed to participating countries for their contributions.

**One Health**Contact: [Rokhila Madaminova](#)

**31 Jan. & 5 Mar.** The CPM Focus Group on plant health in the context of One Health meetings were held. The focus group reviewed the terms of reference, approved the workplan, and provided guidance in the organization and programme for the CPM-19 Science Session: [the importance of plant Health within One Health](#).

**IC Teams & Working Groups****Guides and Training Materials**Contact: [Barbara Peterson](#)

**15 Jan., 12 Feb. and 26 Mar.** The Plant Health Officer Curriculum (PHOC) WG meets monthly to review the status of the new IPPC Plant Health Campus and the e-learning courses components and discuss the process for finalizing and launching the materials, as well as plans for promoting them.

**28 Mar.** The IC Team on Guides and training materials met to review progress on completing tasks arising from Nov IC meeting and to discuss the success of the NPPO Orientation session and the launch of IPPC Plant Health Campus during CPM-19 (2025). The IC Team also reviewed progress on the IPPC Plant Health Campus and discussed the 2024-2025 work plan for IPPC guides and training materials and the ICD LOT, in preparation for the May 2025 IC meeting.

**Fusarium Tropical Race 4 (TR4)**Contact: [Preet Parmar](#)

The IPPC Secretariat hosted a knowledge sharing session on Fusarium TR4 during CPM-19. The session focused on innovation and technology to prevent or manage the spread of Fusarium TR4. The panel consisted of experts from RPPO, NPPO, research institutions and private sector. The session was live-streamed, allowing those interested but unable to attend CPM in person to join the [session](#).

### Contributed resources

Contact: [Maki Iizuka](#)

**27 Feb.** The IC team discussed and agreed on piloting the verification and maintenance process of links for the contributed resources on IPP to keep the information up to date.

### Communications

Contact: [Lisa Ferraro](#)

A focus on capacity development and new resources being published by the IPPC Secretariat, in light of critical launch of the [IPPC Plant Health Campus](#), coupled with the marking important UN days have been a communications focus this past quarter. Starting with the [International Day of Education](#) in January, [International Day of Women and Girls in Science](#) in February and the publishing of the new IPPC e-learning course on [Working with a National Plant Protection Organization](#). PCEs and capacity development continued to be a focus in March with the [certification of eight new PCE facilitators and the publishing of the e-learning course on Conducting PCEs](#). The quarter ended with a bang with CPM-19 and [the launch of the IPPC Plant Health Campus](#), one of the most important IFU milestones this year. Please look out for communications activities on the IPPC Plant Health Campus as we look to all of you to be regional champions, encouraging and advocating for your NPPOs to explore the platform and enrol and complete the e-learning courses!

### Events

Contact: [Maki Iizuka](#)

**2-7 Feb.** The **International Plant Health Innovation Day event in El Salvador, focusing on using AI to combat Fusarium TR4**. The Secretariat organized workshops and simulation exercises to enhance regional cooperation and build capacity in TR4 management. Read more [here](#).

**10-11 Feb.** **Training sessions and a simulation exercise to address the threat of Fusarium TR4 was organized in Paraguay**, in response to the regional threat to banana crops. Read more [here](#).

**4 Mar.** The **Liaison Group of Biodiversity-related Conventions**, uniting heads of the eight biodiversity-related conventions, met prior to COP16. The group reaffirmed their collective support to conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework. Read more [here](#).

**12 Mar.** [6<sup>th</sup> edition of the Procedure manual for Implementation and Capacity Development](#) was published.

### Upcoming meetings and events

| Date             | Events                                                                                         |
|------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 9-11 April 2025  | Mutualization Workshop; Strengthening Food Control and Phytosanitary Capacities and Governance |
| 14-17 April 2025 | Feedback Workshop; Enhancing the PCE process with insights from the Mutualization Workshop     |
| 12 May 2025      | International Day of Plant Health                                                              |
| 19-23 May 2025   | IC May meeting                                                                                 |