

**INTERNATIONAL PLANT PROTECTION CONVENTION (IPPC)
UPDATE ON TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE ACTIVITIES
OCTOBER 2006**

The following communication, received on 10 October 2006, is being circulated at the request of the IPPC.

1. Article XI (2) of the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC) stipulates that the function of the Commission shall be "to promote the full implementation of the objectives of the Convention...". In addition, in Article XX, the contracting parties agree "to promote the provision of technical assistance to contracting parties ... either bilaterally or through the appropriate international organisations, with the objective of facilitating the implementation of this Convention."

2. The IPPC secretariat's interventions are designed to build capacity for implementation of the international standards and the IPPC. This report summarises the status of capacity building activities projected for the year 2006-2007.

Table of the status of current projects under the Technical Cooperation Programme (TCP)

Current TCP Projects	Beneficiary countries	Status	Termination	Notes
1. Technical Cooperation Projects				
TCP/ZAM/2904	Zambia	*completed	2005	*Terminal Statement still to be finalized
TCP/UGA/2907 General capacity building	Uganda	*completed	2005	*Terminal Statement to be finalized
TCP/RAF/2923 containment of Bactrocera invadens	(Kenya, Tanzania, Uganda)	operational	Dec 2006	Comprehensive management project proposal developed for donors consideration and funding

Current TCP Projects	Beneficiary countries	Status	Termination	Notes
TCP/SYR/3001 General capacity building	Syria	operational	2006	Final activities to be concluded by December 2006
TCP/YEM/3005 General capacity building	Yemen	operational	2006	Project extended to include surveillance activities
TCP/RAB/3004 General capacity building and information management system	GCC - 6 countries	operational	2006	Final activities to be concluded by December
TCP/RAS/3002 PRA for SALB	APPPC (7 countries)	*completed	2005	*Terminal statement to be finalized
TCP/NEP/2903	Nepal	*completed	2005	*Terminal statement to be finalized
TCP/SWA/3003 general capacity building	(Swaziland)	operational	2006	Final mission proposed for November
TCP/RAF/3013 (A) information exchange	Regional Africa (52 countries)	operational	2006	Two regional workshops completed national activities ongoing
TCP/GAM/ General capacity building	Gambia	operational	2007	First joint mission scheduled for October 2006
TCP/MOZ/3101	Mozambique	operational	2007	One mission completed, second joint mission in October 2006
TCP/ETH/...	Ethiopia	reformulated for approval		

Unilateral Trust Fund and other Projects

UTF / Bahrain (US\$ 3.5m) and UTF/Saudi Arabia (US\$4.6m): These projects have been formulated, discussed and are now being considered by Governments for their approval for implementation by FAO.

SPFS CARIFORUM: This project is operational. A phytosanitary expert is now conducting a comprehensive phytosanitary capacity evaluation using the PCE tool in CARIFORUM countries.

PSFS – UMA (Mahgreb countries) (US\$1.2m): Project approved, funding confirmed, not yet operational.

GCP / Asia: (US\$0.89m): Project to be funded by Japan for selected countries of Asia. This is a capacity building project and will be managed by HQ.

Capacity-building workshops

3. A Capacity building workshop for potential resource persons and Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries (TCDC) consultants to support the technical assistance programme in the field, was held in Nairobi 15-28 May 2006. Twelve phytosanitary personnel from the African region attended this workshop (including Madagascar and Seychelles).
4. The sub-regional workshop for the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) on the International Standards for Phytosanitary Measures, pest risk analysis (PRA) and phytosanitary capacity evaluation is now scheduled for February 2007.

Workshops on draft ISPMs

5. The Secretariat facilitated seven regional workshops on draft International Standards on Phytosanitary Measures during 2006. The USDA provided funding for the workshops in East and West Africa, the Republic of Korea provided funds for the workshop in Asia, and the others were funded from IPPC Trust funds. These workshops were well attended and are very important especially for countries in which lack of capacity constrains official meaningful responses to the Standards Committee.

Informal Working Group on the Phytosanitary Capacity Evaluation

6. A meeting of the Informal Working Group on the PCE (IWG-PCE) is scheduled to take place in Nairobi, 4-8 December. The WG will review the PCE assessment report of the study undertaken by CABI, review and update the current modules of the PCE, consider possibilities for further update of the tool and consider maintenance and updating issues with respect to incorporating new ISPMs, compatibility with IPP etc.

International liaison

7. CABI (Africa), Kenya Plant Health Inspectorate, University of Nairobi and other stakeholders – participate in discussions and actions towards the establishment of a Regional Centre of Excellence in Kenya. There is ongoing discussion regarding this subject.
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