

Introductory course to the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC)

Course Syllabus

Learning Objectives

International travel and trade are greater than ever before. As people and commodities move around the world, organisms that present risks to plants travel with them. Sudden introduction of exotic pests into places where they were not present before can cause a severe food crisis and important economic and ecological damage.

This course introduces you to the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC), an international plant health agreement that aims to protect cultivated and wild plants by preventing the introduction and spread of pests by setting international standards to harmonize phytosanitary measures that would facilitate safe international trade.

At the end of the course, you will be able to:

- Explain the impact of pests and diseases to the environment, livelihoods, and food security.
- Describe the core components and mechanisms of the IPPC.

Content & Duration

This online course is composed of 4 lessons which are organized in interactive modules and combine course theory with exercises and interactions to facilitate the learning process. The core content of the lessons is complemented with numerous references to primary sources and additional resources on external websites.

It will take you approximately 2 hours to complete the full course, excluding additional materials. This is a self-paced course that allows you to manage your time as you wish. You can navigate the lessons at your convenience and retake them whenever you like.

Completion Certificate

Take the quiz at the end of the course to assess your learning progress. You are required to answer at least 80% of the assessment questions correctly in order to obtain a course certificate.

Before obtaining the certificate you also need to submit the course survey (your feedback). This survey helps us to improve the course, develop new courses, and assess if you are achieving your learning objectives.

Course Outline & Content

Lesson 1: Introduction

The threat of pests to the environment, livelihoods, and food security; origins and benefits of implementing the IPPC; case study.

Lesson 2: International Standards of Phytosanitary Measures

Definitions and objectives; standard-setting procedures; examples of standards.

Lesson 3: National and Regional Plant Protection Organizations

National plant protection organizations (definitions, legal basis, responsibilities, and benefits); regional plant protection organizations.

Lesson 4: Institutional Arrangements

Governing and subsidiary bodies; secretariat relationship with other international organizations and agreements.

Take the free and self-paced course [HERE](#) (login required)