

# Introductory Course to the International Plant Protection Convention

## *Course Syllabus*



**InforMEA**  
UNITED NATIONS INFORMATION PORTAL ON  
MULTILATERAL ENVIRONMENTAL AGREEMENTS

# Course outline and learning objectives

International travel and trade are greater than ever before. As people & 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 on the course, you will be able to:

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

# Content and duration

The course is comprised of 4 short units. Each unit includes an interactive module and a pdf hand-out with links to the relevant terms of the InforMEA glossary, videos and additional reading materials.

It will take you around 2 hours to complete the course, excluding additional training materials. At the end of the course, take a quiz to test your knowledge.

# Assessment and certificate

Take the quiz at the end of the course to assess your learning progress. There are 10 questions in the course, which will change if you take a second attempt to pass the quiz.

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 course and assess if you are achieving your learning objectives.

Unit	Content	Learning objectives
<b>Unit 1 - Introduction</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The threat of pests to the environment, livelihoods and food security</li> <li>2. Origins, vision and mission of the IPPC</li> <li>3. Benefits of implementing the IPPC</li> <li>4. The economic and social benefits of the Mexican avocado industry</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Explain the threats of pest to the environment, livelihoods and food security</li> <li>2. Recall the origins, vision, mission and benefits of the Convention</li> <li>3. Illustrate with an example how the Convention can assist countries</li> </ol>
<b>Unit 2 - Unit 2 - International Standards of Phytosanitary Measures</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Definition and objectives</li> <li>2. Standard Setting Procedure</li> <li>3. Examples of standards</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Define what International Standards of Phytosanitary Measure are and their objective</li> <li>2. Describe the Standard Setting Procedure step by step</li> <li>3. Provide example of International Standards of Phytosanitary Measure</li> </ol>
<b>Unit 3 – National and regional plant protection organizations</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. National plant protection organizations               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Definition and legal basis</li> <li>b. Responsibilities, obligations and benefits</li> </ol> </li> <li>2. Regional plant protection organizations               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Definitions and current RPPOs</li> <li>b. Role</li> </ol> </li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Describe the role and functions of both Regional and National Plant Protection Organizations</li> <li>2. Locate any of the existing Regional Plant Protection Organizations</li> </ol>
<b>Unit 4 - Institutional arrangements</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Governing body</li> <li>2. Subsidiary bodies</li> <li>3. Secretariat</li> <li>4. Relationship with other international organizations and agreements               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. World Trade Organization</li> <li>b. Environmental Organizations and Agreements</li> </ol> </li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Explain the institutional arrangements under the IPPC</li> <li>2. Describe how the IPPC works with other Agreements with similar scope</li> </ol>



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