



Regulating trade to prevent the spread of plant pests

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DALRRD
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& rural development

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Would it ?

The Global Goals for Sustainable Development of 2015 would mean an end to extreme poverty, inequality and climate change by 2030 if they are reached



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Goal number 2: No hunger But the world is hungry

“According to the latest Global Report on Food Crises (GRFC), nearly 282 million people in 59 countries and territories experienced high levels of acute hunger in 2023 - a worldwide increase of 24 million from the previous year.”

<https://www.fao.org/newsroom/detail/global-report-on-food-crises---acute-hunger-remains-persistently-high-in-59-countries-with-1-in-5-people-assessed-in-need-of-critical-urgent-action/en#:~:text=Rome%20%2D%20According%20to%20the%20latest,million%20from%20the%20previous%20year.>



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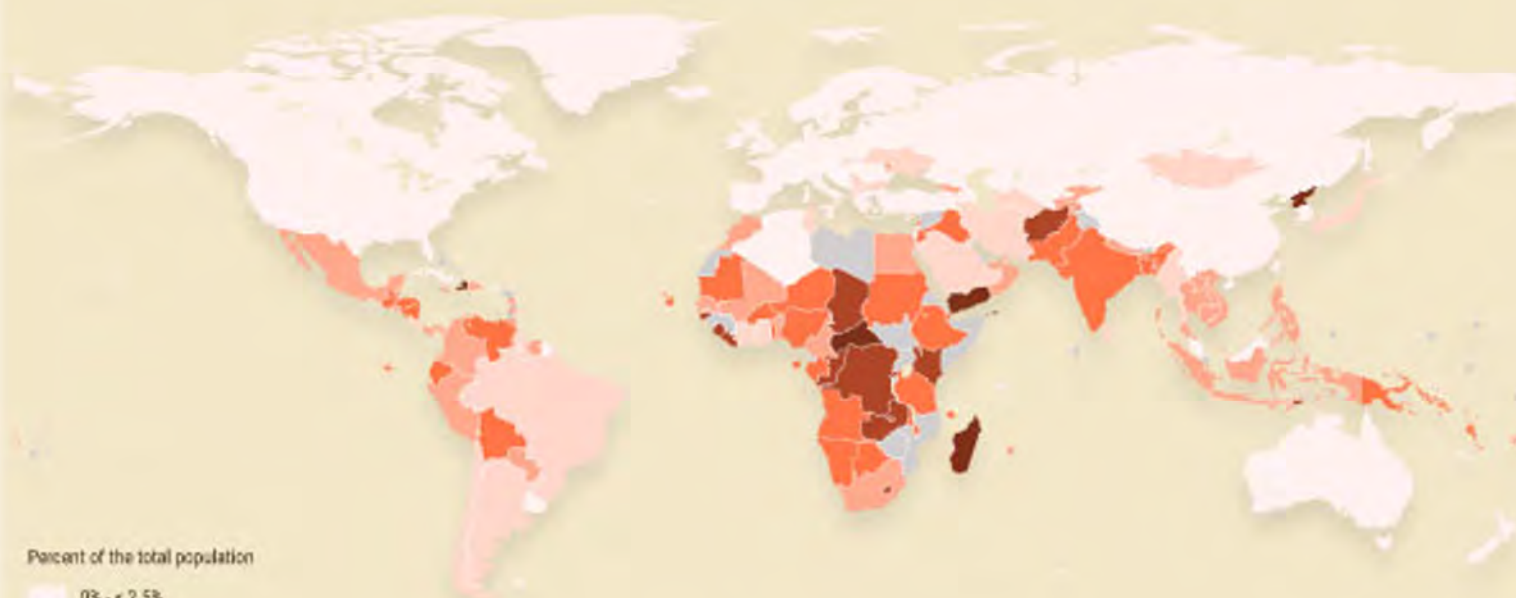
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FAO HUNGER MAP

Prevalence of Undernourishment 2019-2021
SDG Indicator 2.1.1



Percent of the total population

- 0% - < 2.5%
- 2.5% - 4.9%
- 5% - 9.9%
- 10% - 24.9%
- 25% - 39.9%
- 40% - 60%
- No data

Source: FAO, IFAO, WHO, WFP and WHO, 2022. The State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World 2022. Repurposing food and agricultural policies to make healthy diets more affordable. Data are available on FAOSTAT (<https://www.fao.org/faostat/en/#data/VS>).

The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of FAO concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area or of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers and boundaries. Dashed lines on maps represent approximate border lines for which there may not yet be full agreement.

Final boundary between the Republic of Sudan and the Republic of South Sudan has not yet been determined. Dotted line represents approximately the Line of Control in Jammu and Kashmir agreed upon by India and Pakistan. The final status of Jammu and Kashmir has not yet been agreed upon by the parties.



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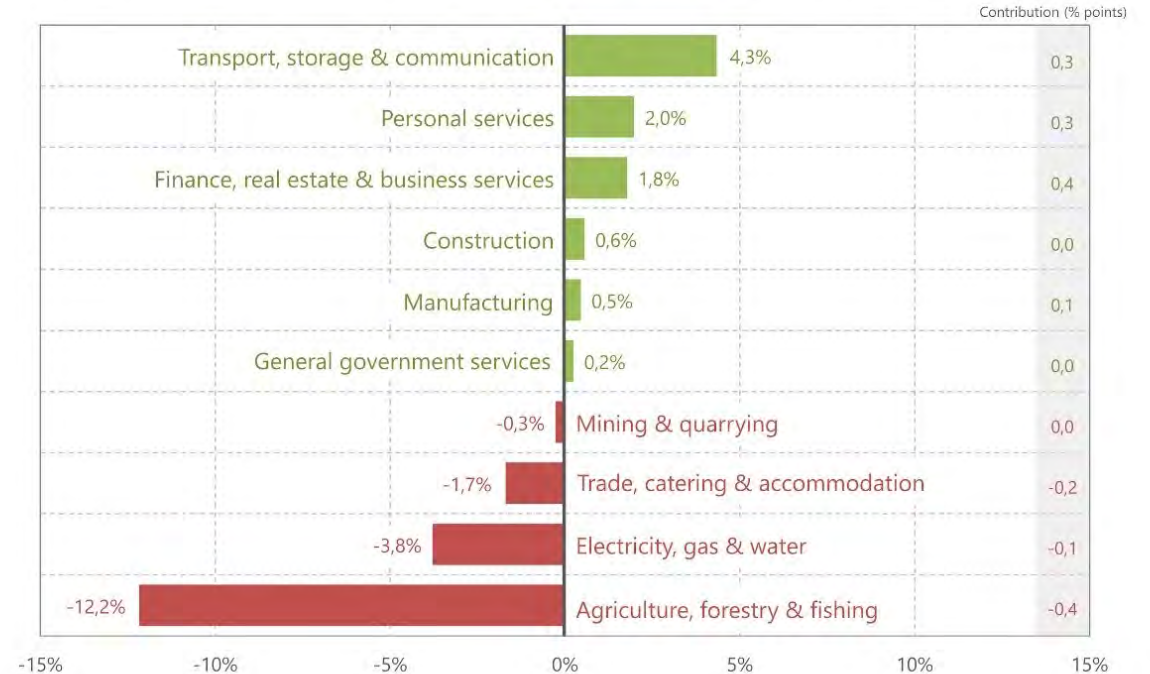
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(8) Economic growth leads to no (1) poverty

- More trade
- More travel
- More risks
- More pests

Figure 4: Six industries recorded a rise in production in 2023

Percentage change in annual value added – 2023 compared with 2022 (constant 2015 prices). GDP grew by 0,6% in 2023



Source: Gross domestic product (GDP), 4th quarter 2023

<https://www.statssa.gov.za/?p=17053>



Agricultural products and pests intercepted

World trade in agriculture over US\$1 trillion annually

- Fresh fruit- fruit flies, lepidopteran borers
- Grain – storage pests
- Ornamentals and propagation (horticulture) – thrips, whiteflies, scales, pathogens
- Of all interception in the EU, 73% = fruit
- Fruit flies are generally the most intercepted



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Africa is open for trade

Trade and travelling increased exponentially since 1994 not only for the RSA but also for neighbours and other land-lock countries

It provide more opportunities to trade and to more countries

It also provided more opportunities for more pests to visit the region

Some decided to stay

Some pests are on their way

Others are hiding...

Sub-Saharan Africa in 2021:

4,536 products
were exported to
227 countries and
4,621 products
were imported from
236 countries.

<https://wits.worldbank.org/CountryProfile/en/Country/SSF/Year/LTST/Summarytext>



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Pest establishment in new areas are aided by:

- Increase in trade and tourism
- Climate change
- Resistance to chemicals
- Withdrawal of chemicals
- Development costs of new chemicals



Photo © D. Visser



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What are we protecting?

- Our food and food for the region (food security)
- Our ability to trade with food (reduce poverty and economic growth).

Plants provide 98 percent of the oxygen we breath and nearly 80 percent of our daily calorie intake.

Plant pests destroy up to 40 percent of agricultural crops, including food crops each year, which cost the world approximately USD 220 billion annually in global trade losses.

Bananas, the most widely traded fruit in the world, worth USD 7.5 billion, are under attack from the devastating banana fusarium (TR4), a fungus that attacks the roots causing bananas to wilt. In 2019, TR4 had been introduced in Latin America where two-thirds of the global banana trade originated.

<https://www.ippc.int/en/news/geneva-press-briefing-update-on-global-plant-pests-and-their-devastating-impact-on-food-security/>



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Phytophthora infestans
or Late blight of
potatoes causing famine
in Ireland between 1848
and 1860

Plant pests can destroy plant life, and the
environment
Less of a green planet

More recently
Prostephanus
truncatus or
Larger Grain
borer



(C) J. Maundu, ICIPE



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World Trade Organisation (WTO)

- The WTO deals with the rules of trade between nations
- WTO agreements, are signed by most trading nations and ratified in their parliaments
- It aims to ensure that trade flows as smoothly, predictably and freely as possible
- Problem:
 - How to ensure trade with food that is safe (free from quarantine pests)
 - How to prevent that phytosanitary regulations are abused (protectionism)
 - An agreement to apply food safety and animal and plant health measures (sanitary and phytosanitary or SPS measures) sets out the basic rules in the WTO SPS.



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The WTO Agreement on the Application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures (SPS Agreement) 14 Articles

- Article 3
- Harmonization
- Article 4
- Equivalence
- Article 5
- Assessment of Risk and Determination of the Appropriate Level of Protection
- Article 6
Adaptation to Regional Conditions

Article 7

Transparency

Article 8

Control, Inspection and
Approval Procedures

Article 9

Technical Assistance



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The International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC)

- The International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC) is an [intergovernmental treaty](#) signed by over 180 countries, aiming to protecting the world's plant resources from the spread and introduction of pests, and promoting safe trade. The Convention introduced [International Standards for Phytosanitary Measures \(ISPMs\)](#) as its main tool to achieve its goals, making it the sole global standard setting organization for plant health.
- The IPPC is one of the "Three Sisters" recognized by the World Trade Organization's (WTO) Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures (SPS) Agreement, along with the Codex Alimentarius Commission for food safety standards and the World Organization for Animal Health (OIE) for animal health standards.



Photo: Desiree Heerden



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International Standards for Phytosanitary Measures (ISPMs)

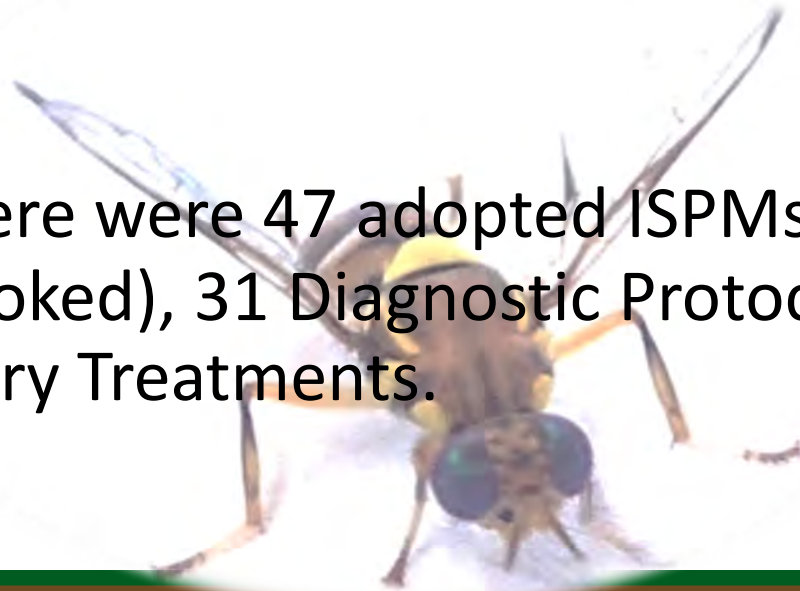
These standards are adopted by the Commission on Phytosanitary Measures (CPM), which is the governing body of the IPPC. The first International Standard for Phytosanitary Measures (ISPM) was adopted in 1993.

By 1 April 2024, there were 47 adopted ISPMs (ISPM 30 being revoked), 31 Diagnostic Protocols and 45 Phytosanitary Treatments.

These international standards:
Protect sustainable agriculture and enhance global food security

Protect the environment, forests and biodiversity

Facilitate economic and trade development



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ISPM 1 Principles

11 basic and 17 operational principles

Necessary

Technical
justification

Minimum impact
Art VII.2(g) of the text

Pest Risk Analysis

Inspection

Systems
approach

Harmonization



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Why Legislation ?

- **Import regulatory system** Legislation regarding the importation of regulated articles (APA)
 - Pest risk analysis (Import conditions)
 - Import system (ports of entry, inspectors, document checks and commodity inspection)
- **National control system**
 - Pest surveillance network (early detection for those pests in hiding)
 - Pest preparedness and action plan/s which include
 - Specific programmes to reduce pest interceptions such as the sterile insect technique(SIT) for Medfly (*Ceratitis capitata*) to lower populations for export compliance
- **Export compliance (Comply with importing country's legislation)**
 - Export and re export inspection and certification system
 - Facilitation of safe In-transit of commodities through South Africa



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Legislative mandate

- Agricultural Pests Act (Act 36, of 1983)
 - Regulate **importation** of plants and plant products
 - **National control** of Regulated pests
- Plant Health Bill (In parliament)
 - Regulate **importation** of plants and plant products
 - **National control** of Regulated pests
 - **Export, Re-export and In-Transit** of plants and plant products
 - Formalization of the **National Plant Protection Organization(NPPOZA)**



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Regulatory and policy documents

Notify the detection of a new pest

- Plant Health Policy
- Agricultural Pests Act, 1983 (Act No. 36 of 1983)
- National Control Measures R.110
- South African Emergency Plant Pest Response Plan (SAEPPRP)
- Specific plant pest contingency or action plans
- Integrated (government, research, industry) pest steering committees



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Pest Alert: *Drosophila suzukii*

Is a quarantine pest for SA

Detected in 4 Provinces

Notified on the International
Phytosanitary Portal of the IPPC

Delimiting surveys continues

Removal restrictions are
implemented.



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Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations



International
Plant Protection
Convention

African Phytosanitary Program

SAVE
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DATE

12 May

International Day
of Plant Health

#PlantHealth



Thank You
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