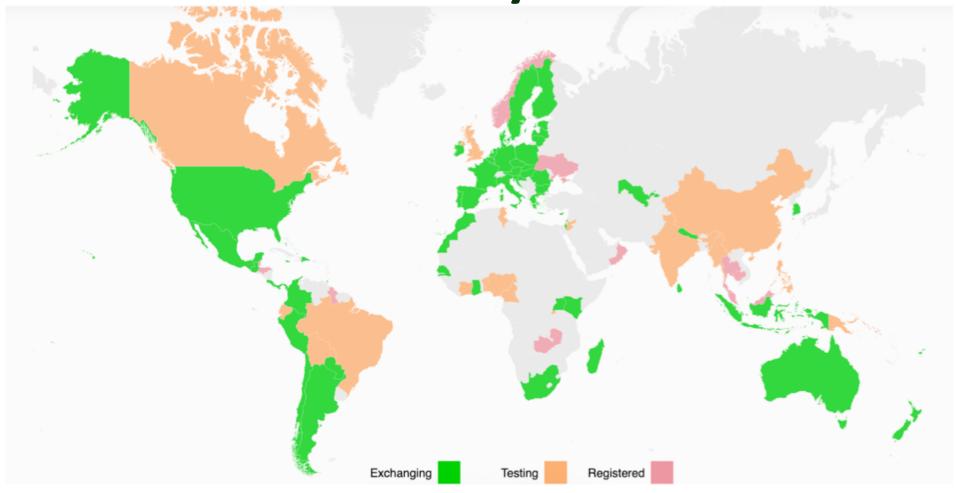
## The IPPC ePhyto Solution



1 April 2022











## The IPPC ePhyto Solution - Background

- The International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC) is one of the "Three SPS Sisters" and is the organization responsible for setting international standards for trade in plants and plant products
- "ePhyto" is short for electronic phytosanitary certificate. In simple terms, it is the data contained in a phytosanitary certificate in digital form. ePhytos can be printed out in paper form if needed.
- The IPPC ePhyto Solution meets the requirements of the IPPC's International Standard for Phytosanitary Measures (ISPM) 12 Annex 1.
- ePhyto helps countries comply with Articles 7.9 (release of perishable goods) and 10.1 (simplifying formalities and documentation requirements for cross-border trade) of the Trade Facilitation Agreement of the World Trade
   Organization.
- The ePhyto Solution allows countries to electronically exchange ePhytos with any other country in the system through a central hub quickly and accurately. There is no need for bilateral IT agreements and no charge for a country to join the system once they meet the necessary requirements.
- As of February 18, 2021, 106 countries are registered on the system, and 65 countries are using the ePhyto Solution live in a business-as-usual context.









## What is an ePhyto?

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## **Paper Representations**

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#### Same certificate received from Argentina via ePhyto in US





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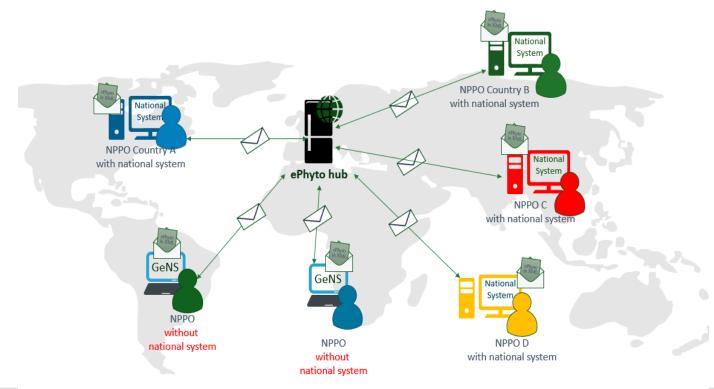






## The IPPC ePhyto Solution

The Solution consists of the ePhyto Hub (with direct connections for countries with their own national systems) and the web-based Generic ePhyto National System (GeNS – for countries without their own infrastructure) exchanging harmonized messages in a uniform format and structure.















## TRACES, Single Windows and ePhyto

Single Window systems can now connect to the HUB to send/receive ePhytos on behalf of countries they manage.

The delegation rule can be adjusted on the following criteria:

- Incoming/Outgoing messages
- Document Type (Regular and Re-export)
- Document Status (Issued, Withdraw)



#### EU Traces is using this feature, as is Madagascar and oth

e.g. Countries sending ePhytos to all the EU members (26) will send it to the HUB, and the message will be pulled by the Traces system.

This can also be applied to systems like ASYCUDA, the ASEAN Single window and blockchains

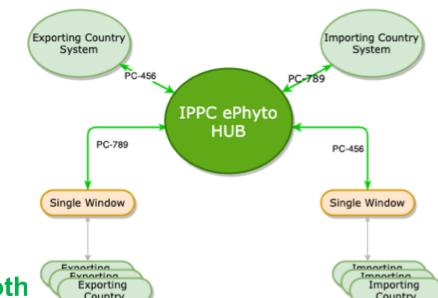












## Why is ePhyto important?

**Security** - The use of electronic phytosanitary certificates (ePhytos) significantly minimizes the possibility of fraudulent certificates and contaminated cargo getting through customs.

**Border Process Efficiency** - the ePhyto Solution allows the verification, and if needed, the replacement of the phytosanitary certificate even before the consignment arrives at the border. Thus, once the product arrives all paperwork issues are prevented and all that is needed is the inspection.

**Global Coverage** - All countries using the ePhyto System can exchange with one another without the need of bilateral IT agreements.









## ePhyto Case Study Benefits Reported

- Fiji, Argentina, Sri Lanka, Costa Rica, Uganda, Uzbekistan, New Zealand, USA, Jamaica, and the Republic of Korea have provided detailed case studies (<a href="www.ephytoexchange.org">www.ephytoexchange.org</a>)
  - Average of 4 days of time saved in the trade process
  - No express courier service to send paper certificates saves up to US\$100 per shipment and avoids lost or damaged certificates
  - Low-cost to set up, up to US\$900K/yr. in savings reported in one case (Fiji)
  - Up to US\$55 per container in savings reported in another case (Morocco)
  - Reduced costs of labor for exporters (applying for and receiving certificates can be done online, no need to go to offices; an additional benefit for the pandemic period).
  - No need for special security paper, cost savings of up to US\$200k in one case (USA)
  - Effective use of resources at border stations (advance notice helps lower port costs for both NPPOs and businesses, reduced waiting at land borders)
  - Total reduction in fraudulent certificates (Uganda)
  - Integration into trade facilitation projects covered ePhyto accession costs for many developing countries
  - Facilitates the collection of reliable trade statistics in real time for report writing and informing major decisions.









## ePhyto Case Studies – Specific examples of benefits

- US Grain shipment to Chile corrected ePhyto reissued
  - \$36,000 in demurrage charges saved
  - Shipment released within hours rather than days
- Argentina Pomegranate fruit shipment to the US corrected ePhyto issued
  - Perishable shipment
  - Shelf life maintained
- Fraudulent Shipment to Mexico prevented
  - Paper certificate number had no correlation to ePhyto numbers
  - Possible pest problem averted

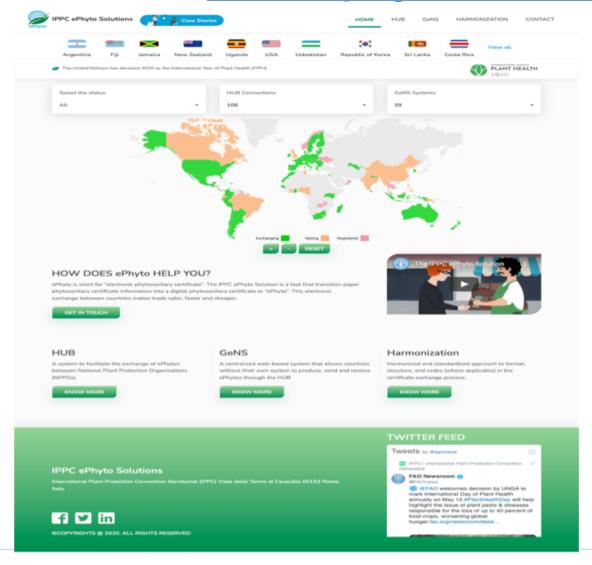








## To learn more: www.ephytoexchange.org







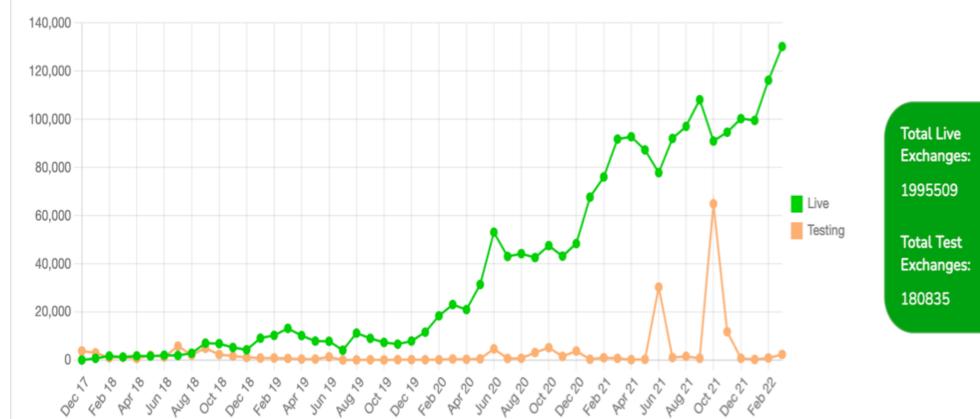






## **Continuing to Grow and Ready for More!**















# Thank you









