

EPPO – Profile of an International Organization

Status

The European and Mediterranean Plant Protection Organization (EPPO) is an intergovernmental organization responsible for international cooperation in Europe, and supporting the Member Governments in ensuring plant health in the EPPO Region. In the sense of the article IX of the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC), it is the Regional Plant Protection Organization for Europe. Founded in 1951 with 15 member governments, it now has 52 member governments including nearly every country in Europe, as well as countries in the Mediterranean region and Central Asia.



Current EPPO member countries are shown in green

EPPO member countries (2025)

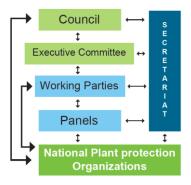
Albania	Greece	Netherlands
Algeria	Guernsey	Norway
Austria	Hungary	Poland
Azerbaijan	Ireland	Portugal
Belarus	Israel	Romania
Belgium	Italy	Russia
Bosnia and	Jersey	Serbia
Herzegovina	Jordan	Slovakia
Bulgaria	Kazakhstan	Slovenia
Croatia	Kyrgyzstan	Spain
Cyprus	Latvia	Sweden
Czechia	Lithuania	Switzerland
Denmark	Luxemburg	Tunisia
Estonia	North Macedonia	Türkiye
Finland	Malta	United Kingdom
France	Moldova	Ukraine
Georgia	Montenegro	Uzbekistan
Germany	Morocco	

Aims

- To protect plant health in agriculture, forestry and the uncultivated environment.
- To develop an international strategy against the introduction and spread of pests (including invasive alien plants) that damage cultivated and wild plants, in natural and agricultural ecosystems.
- To encourage harmonization of phytosanitary regulations and all other areas of official plant protection action.
- To promote the use of modern, safe, and effective pest control methods.
- To provide a documentation service on plant protection.

Structure

The Organization is administered by its Executive Committee (7 governments elected on a rotational basis, meeting twice a year), the its under control of Council (representatives of all member governments, meeting once a year) headed by a Chairman and a Vice-Chairman, elected as individuals. A Secretariat of 20 persons is headed by a Director-General. EPPO is financed directly by annual contributions from its member governments. Its official languages are English, French and for certain purposes Russian. EPPO is also hosting two networks: Euphresco (research funders) and the European Minor Uses Coordination Facility (MUCF).



EPPO Activities

EPPO's technical activities are directed by two Working Parties (on Phytosanitary Regulations, and on Plant Protection Products). Their respective programmes cover: limiting the spread of pests between countries (broadly plant quarantine) and harmonizing activities on plant protection products within countries. Each Working Party meets once a year. The meetings are held in member countries throughout the EPPO region.

The Working Parties draw up their programmes subject to the approval of the Executive Committee and Council. They assign specific tasks to Panels, composed of specialists from Member Countries nominated as individuals, which prepare detailed draft recommendations for the Working Parties. Every year, 20-25 Panel meetings are held in Paris or throughout the region. The technical work of the Organization depends on the active and continued participation of experts from Member Countries in the Working Party and Panel meetings. The Secretariat prepares and runs all meetings, and coordinates the activity which arises from them. It is responsible for all publications and information services.



Administration

Chair

Lieven VAN HERZELE

Vice-Chair Sultan-Makhmud SULTANOV

Executive Committee

Italy, Finland, Kyrgyzstan, Georgia, Lithuania, Netherlands, United Kingdom

Director-General

Olga TIKKA

EPPO Standards

As a result of the work being done within the different technical bodies of the Organization, EPPO makes recommendations to the National Plant Protection Organizations of its Member Governments. These recommendations are considered as Regional Standards in the sense of the IPPC. In order to ensure an international acceptance, the draft standards go through an agreed approval procedure.

All EPPO Standards are first published, as they are approved, in the EPPO Bulletin. They are also available from the EPPO website (except efficacy evaluation standards – see PP1 database) and the EPPO Global Database.

EPPO standards are organized in the following series:

- Efficacy evaluation of plant protection products
- General phytosanitary measures
- Phytosanitary procedures
- Production of healthy planting material
- Pest Risk Analysis (PRA)
- Safe use of biological control
- Diagnostic protocols for regulated pests
- Commodity-specific phytosanitary measures
- National regulatory control systems
 - Phytosanitary treatments

EPPO Secretariat Staff

Olga TIKKA

Director-General

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EPPO Publications & Databases

EPPO Bulletin

A journal of regulatory plant protection, published by Wiley (about 600 pages per year in 3 issues). It contains:

- invited or submitted papers on topical scientific subjects
- new or unusual pest reports
- papers presented at EPPO Conferences
- EPPO Standards

https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/journal/13652338

EPPO Reporting Service

A monthly information report on events of phytosanitary concern (e.g. outbreaks, new pests). It can be obtained freely by e-mail.

EPPO Global Database

EPPO Global Database is a free online database which contains all EPPO pestspecific information: pest and plant names and their associated computer codes (EPPO Codes), geographical distributions with world maps, host plants, vectors, Standards, Reporting Service articles, datasheets & pictures.

https://gd.eppo.int

EPPO Platform on PRAs

This online platform includes Pest Risks Analyses (PRAs) produced by EPPO, EFSA, NPPOs and other related agencies of EPPO member countries. The aim of this platform is to share documents and information on PRA activities within the EPPO region.

https://pra.eppo.int

EPPO Platform on Communication Material

The aim of this platform is to share communication material prepared by NPPOs during their communication campaigns on plant health.

https://media.eppo.int

PP1 Database

All EPPO Standards on Efficacy Evaluation of Plant Protection Products (PP1) are now stored in a database. All general Standards can be accessed free of charge. Access to specific Standards (e.g. herbicides, fungicides, insecticides, plant growth regulators) is provided for an annual fee.

https://pp1.eppo.int

Database on Resistance Cases

This database contains information (documented cases) on the development of resistance of pests to Plant Protection Products in the EPPO region.

https://resistance.eppo.int

Database on PPP Data Extrapolation

This database provides detailed lists of acceptable extrapolations in the context of the registration of plant protection products for minor uses.

https://extrapolation.eppo.int

Database on Diagnostic Expertise

The expertise of the EPPO member countries concerning the diagnostic of regulated pests can be retrieved from this online database (including laboratory information, expert names with details about pests diagnosed and methods used, validation data for tests).

https://dc.eppo.int

EPPO-Q-bank

The aim of the EPPO-Q-bank is to support diagnostic activities of phytosanitary organizations. It contains curated sequences of quarantine pests and their look-alikes, information on specimens as well as tools to perform analyses of (barcoding) sequences https://qbank.eppo.int



EPPO Technical bodies

Panel members are nominated by their National Plant Protection Organizations and provide independent expertise at the EPPO meetings. The technical work of EPPO which is carried by Panels and Expert Working Groups (EWGs) is directed by two Working Parties where all member countries are invited to participate.

Working Party on Phytosanitary Regulations

- Panel on phytosanitary measures
- Panel on global phytosanitary affairs
- Panel on quarantine pests for forestry
- EWG Core members for reviewing PRAs
- Panel on phytosanitary inspections
- Joint EPPO/OIBC Panel on biological control agents
- Panel on phytosanitary measures for potato
- Panel on invasive alien plants
- Panel on plant protection information
- Panel on diagnostics and quality assurance
- Panel on diagnostics in nematology
- Panel on diagnostics in bacteriology
- Panel on diagnostics in entomology
- Panel on diagnostics in virology and phytoplasmology
- Panel on diagnostics in mycology

Working Party on Plant Protection Products

- Panel for the efficacy evaluation of fungicides and insecticides
- Panel for the efficacy evaluation of herbicides and plant growth regulators
- Panel on general standards on efficacy evaluation
- EWG on resistance to plant protection products
- EWG on harmonization of data on plant protection products
- Ad hoc EWG on extrapolation tables for minor uses



Connect with us

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Euphresco: www.euphresco.net/projects/

European Minor Uses Coordination Facility: www.minoruses.eu

