

Plant health standards and safe trade facilitation: Africa's perspective

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Food and Agriculture Organization
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International Plant
Protection Convention

Background (1/3)

African economies rely on agriculture, which:

- Contributes 4-27% of gross domestic product
- Generates 80% of export earnings
- Provides 60% employment
- Provides a large share in poverty and hunger reduction
- Boosts inter-African trade and investments



Background (2/3)

African countries do export to other regions agricultural commodities either as:

- raw materials or
- processed which include: tobacco, coffee, tea, dhal, chick peas, common beans, groundnuts, bambara nuts, fruits, vegetables, ornamentals, cocoa, timber just to mention a few.



Background (3/3)

- African agricultural exports have increased over the decade.
- These commodities which are exported to other regions have increased over time.
- These meet the standards set by the Standards Setting Organizations of the **World Trade Organization Agreement on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures (WTO SPS)**
- For plant health, the WTO SPS Agreement has recognized the **international standards, guidelines and recommendations developed under the auspices of the IPPC Secretariat**



Importance of plant health standards and safe trade facilitation

International plant health standards (ISPMs)

- Of the 96 adopted ISPMs, 87 of them are directly trade-related
- Representing 90% of the adopted ISPMs



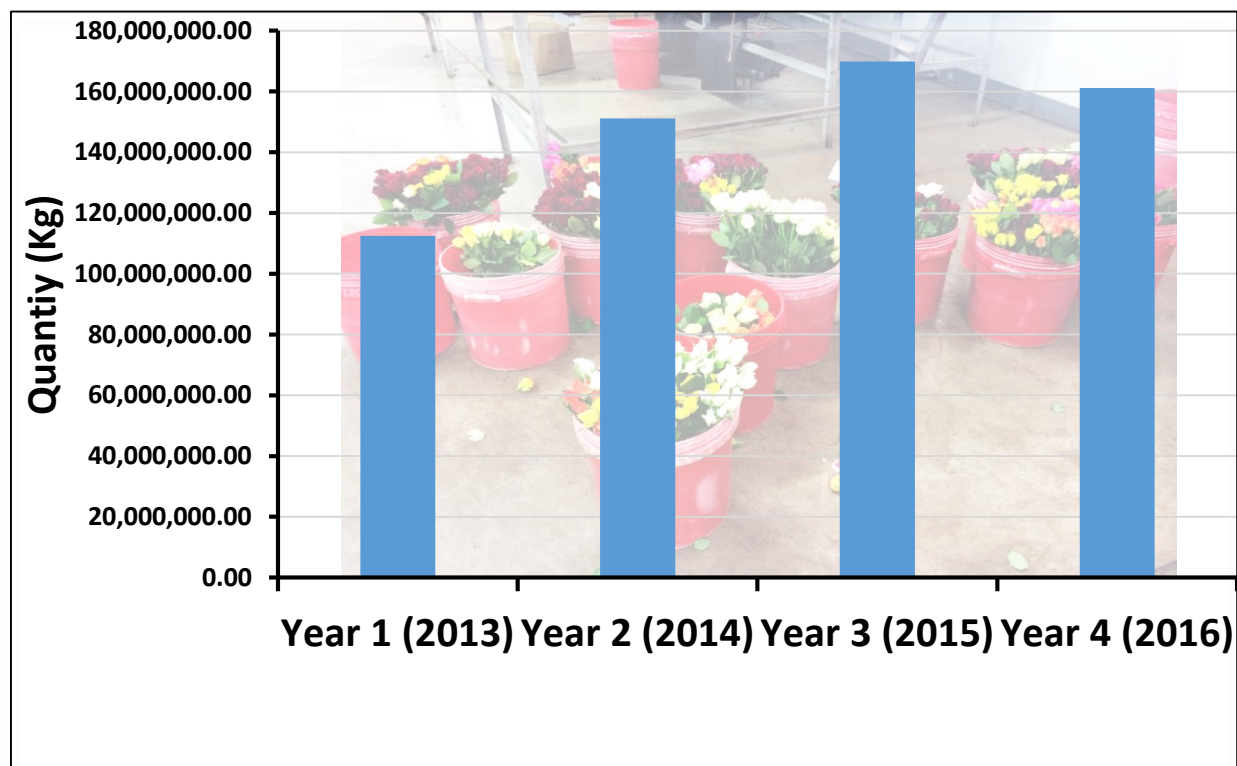
Importance of plant health standards and safe trade facilitation

Examples of standards that contribute to safe trade facilitation include:

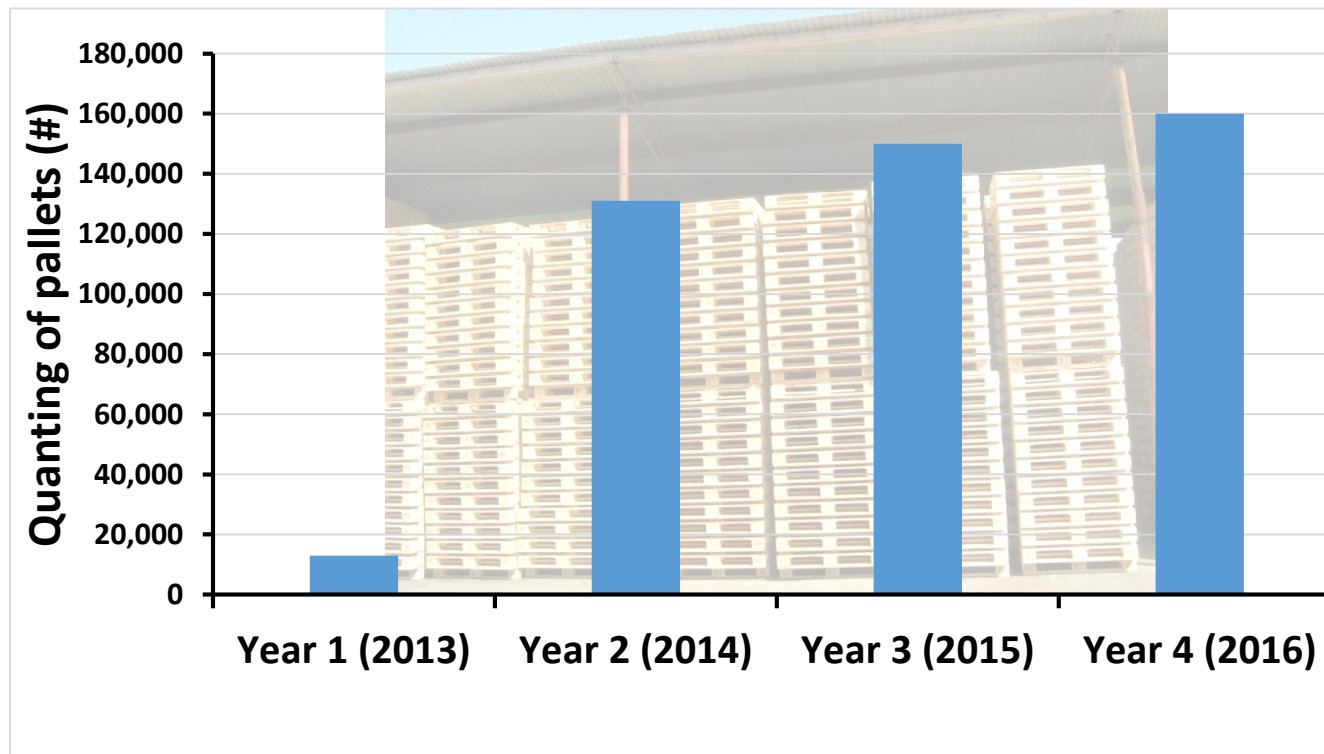
- ISPM 15, used by Malawi for wood packaging material
- ISPM 12 (phytosanitary certificates) and its Appendix 1 (ePhyto), used by Kenya to export cut flowers to the Netherlands



Quantity of cut flowers exported over the four year period of 2013, 2014, 2015 and 2016 for Kenya



Quantity of wood packaging exports over a four year period of 2013, 2014, 2015 and 2016 for Malawi



Way forward

- International plant health standards have contributed greatly to trade facilitation in Africa
- ISPM 15 and ISPM 12 (ePhyto) are some examples of the standards that have been in use
- It is important therefore for African countries to be active in the development and implementation of International plant health standards



THANKS FOR LISTENING

