



FEED THE FUTURE

The U.S. Government's Global Hunger & Food Security Initiative



Supporting the Global Food Security Strategy through Strengthened Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) Systems

USDA SPS COURSES

A blended learning strategy combining web-based modules & hands-on workshops



The Challenge

Unsafe food threatens public health and undermines food security at local, regional, and global levels. The benefits of extensive development activities targeting food insecurity are drained away when food products are contaminated. Microbial and chemical contaminants are of particular concern, as are fungal pathogens. Via interagency collaboration, the Food Safety Network provides access to knowledge and training to support efforts to integrate Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) interventions to address food safety, animal health, and plant health in trade along agricultural value chains.

The Food Safety Network (FSN) directly supports the USG Global Food Security Strategy (GFSS) and its goals of improving food security, reducing poverty, and reducing malnutrition.

Participants complete engaging interactive web-based modules, and then apply the modules' concepts to real-world agricultural trade activities during in-person workshops. An additional benefit of these training are that participants will be prepared to deliver future trainings themselves, thus educating others on best practices used to prevent Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS)/food safety problems and minimize risks across value chains.

The Solution

Modern and reliable food safety systems are becoming a mandatory prerequisite for a country's access to global markets. However, many developing countries' exporters and importers struggle to maintain compatible food safety systems along global supply chains. To reduce these challenges, USDA partnered with Texas A&M University to develop an international training program on key SPS topics.

The Impact

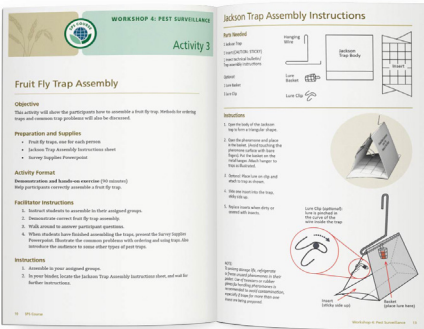
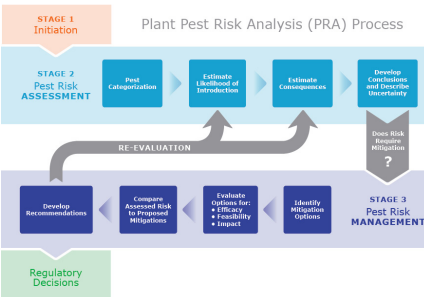
In this training program there are sixteen modules available to learners, including fourteen modules on plant health, one module on animal health, and one module on food safety. The plant health modules were released to the international community in 2018. They effectively teach how to incorporate and use science-based risk analysis concepts and tools in analyzing, establishing quarantine, and controlling pest diseases in one's country. In Spring 2021, two additional modules covering Food Safety and Animal Health were released. These modules explore the essential components of modern food safety systems and seek to increase understanding of animal health disease surveillance and emergency response measures. Lessons learned from these modules could lead to compliance with internationally accepted and science-based food safety standards. Since their launch, these modules have been accessed by more than 1500 users in over 100 countries across the globe.



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE



**U.S. FOOD & DRUG
ADMINISTRATION**



What's Included

Plant Health Learning Modules

Fourteen learning modules on the following topics:

- The SPS Agreement
- The IPPC and the Standard Setting Process
- Market Access Process
- Pest Risk Analysis
- Pest Risk Communication
- Pest Risk Assessment
- Plant Pest Risk Management
- Pest Surveillance
- Plant Pest ID Systems
- Pest Free Concepts
- Phytosanitary Certification
- Phytosanitary Inspections
- Phytosanitary Treatments For Agricultural Commodities
- SPS Course Review

Plant Health Workshops

Eight workshops on the following topics:

- Pest Surveillance
- Phytosanitary Certification
- Pest Risk Analysis
- Phytosanitary Treatments
- Market Access
- Inspections
- Plant Pest Identification Systems
- Pest Free Concepts

Animal Health Learning Module and Workshop Topics

One learning module and corresponding workshop covering the topics bulleted below:

- The Evolution of a Modern Surveillance Process: An Outbreak Story
- The Value of a Modern Surveillance & Emergency Response Process
- International Trade and Animal Health
- Import Risk Analysis
- Risk Management and Risk Communication
- Emergency Preparedness and Response
- African Swine Fever (ASF) Case Study

Food Safety Learning Module and Workshop Topics

One learning module and corresponding workshop covering the topics bulleted below:

- Evolution of a Food Safety System
- Value of a Modern Food Safety System
- Core Organizing Principles of a National Food Control System
- A Modernization Story: Case Study

Instructor Tools

All modules and workshops include an assessment pack that can be utilized to support formative or summative assessment of participants. PowerPoints and printable instructional materials are provided for the workshops.

Authored By

Texas A&M University
 United States Agency for International Development (USAID)
 United States Department of Agriculture (USDA)