



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations



International
Plant Protection
Convention



Overview of the IPPC ePhyto Solution

Webinar on ePhyto in Azerbaijan – 30 July 2024

Dominique Menon, ePhyto Programme Officer, IPPC Secretariat



What is an ePhyto?

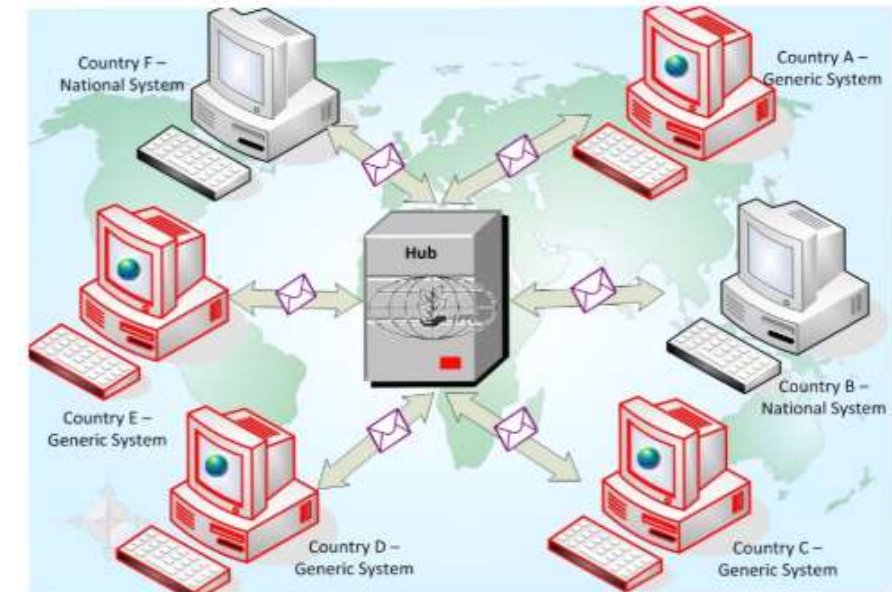
- **ePhyto** = electronic phytosanitary certificate
- **Electronic equivalent of a paper phytosanitary certificate**
- Requirements of ISPM 12 apply
- May be issued where accepted by the importing country
- Not a scanned certificate



Overview of the IPPC ePhyto Solution

What is the IPPC ePhyto Solution?

- **Hub:** a central server to facilitate exchange of ePhytos between NPPOs
- **GeNS:** centralized web-based system to allow countries without their own IT system to produce, send and receive ePhytos through the Hub
- **Harmonization:** harmonized message with uniform format, structure and accompanying codes and lists



ICC

international
computing
centre

ICT SOLUTIONS
FOR THE
UN FAMILY

Why ePhyto?



















Paper

versus

ePhyto

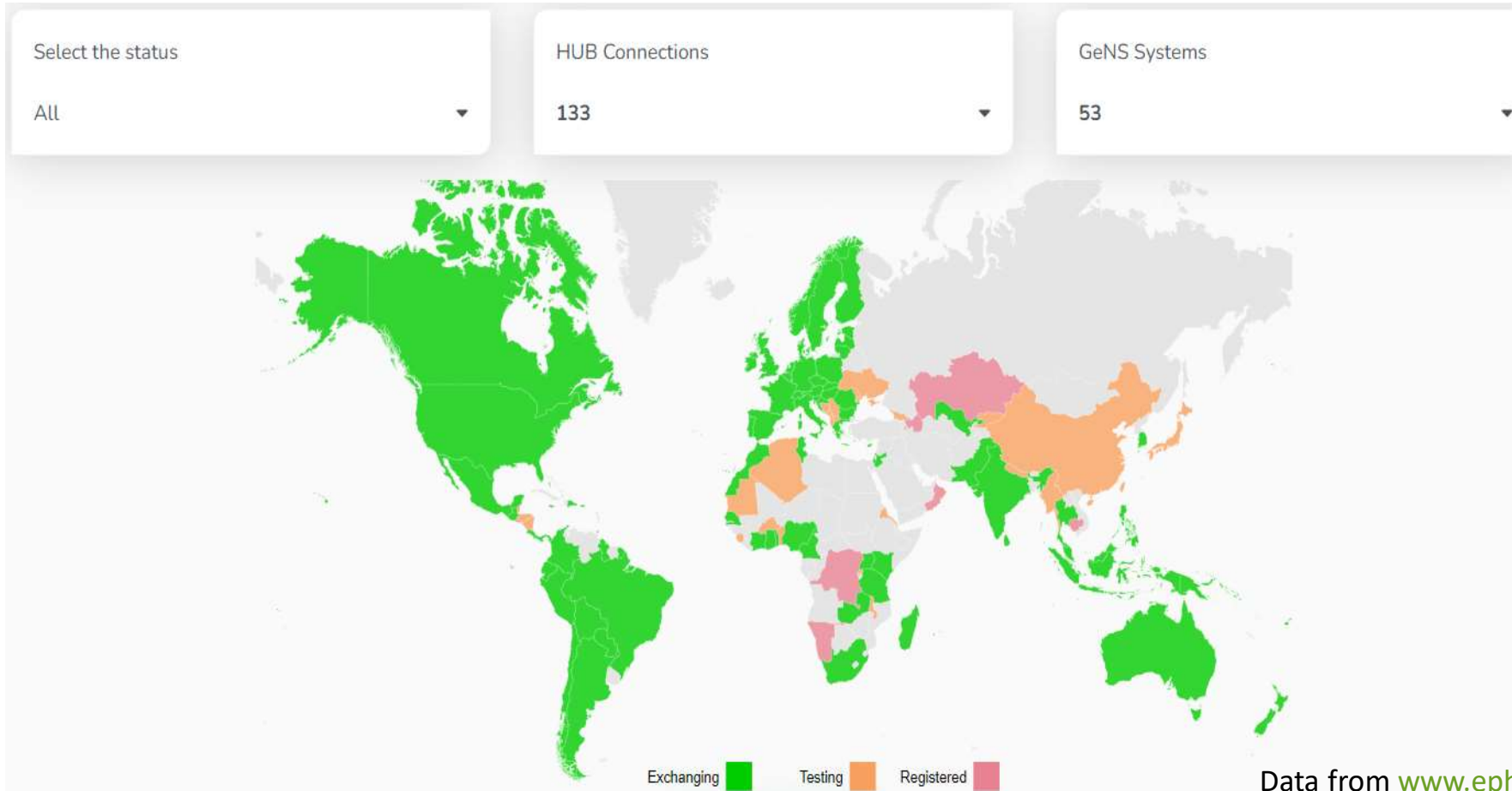


-  Signature, stamp can be falsified
-  Damaged
-  Lost
-  Handled by numerous parties
-  Costly re-issuance
-  Deterioration of commodities waiting for clearance
-  Problem of "original certificate" and copies
-  More problems with non-compliant documents than actual plant health issues

-  Very difficult to falsify
-  No deterioration
-  Bring with you as many as you want, accessible everywhere
-  Easy to circulate
-  Easy re-issuance
-  Faster clearance
-  No problem of obtaining "officially certified copies"
-  Less non-compliant documents thanks to harmonization

Overview of the IPPC ePhyto Solution

Status of ePhyto implementation worldwide



**133 countries
on board**

Exchanging: 90 (29 GeNS)

Testing: 34 (19 GeNS)

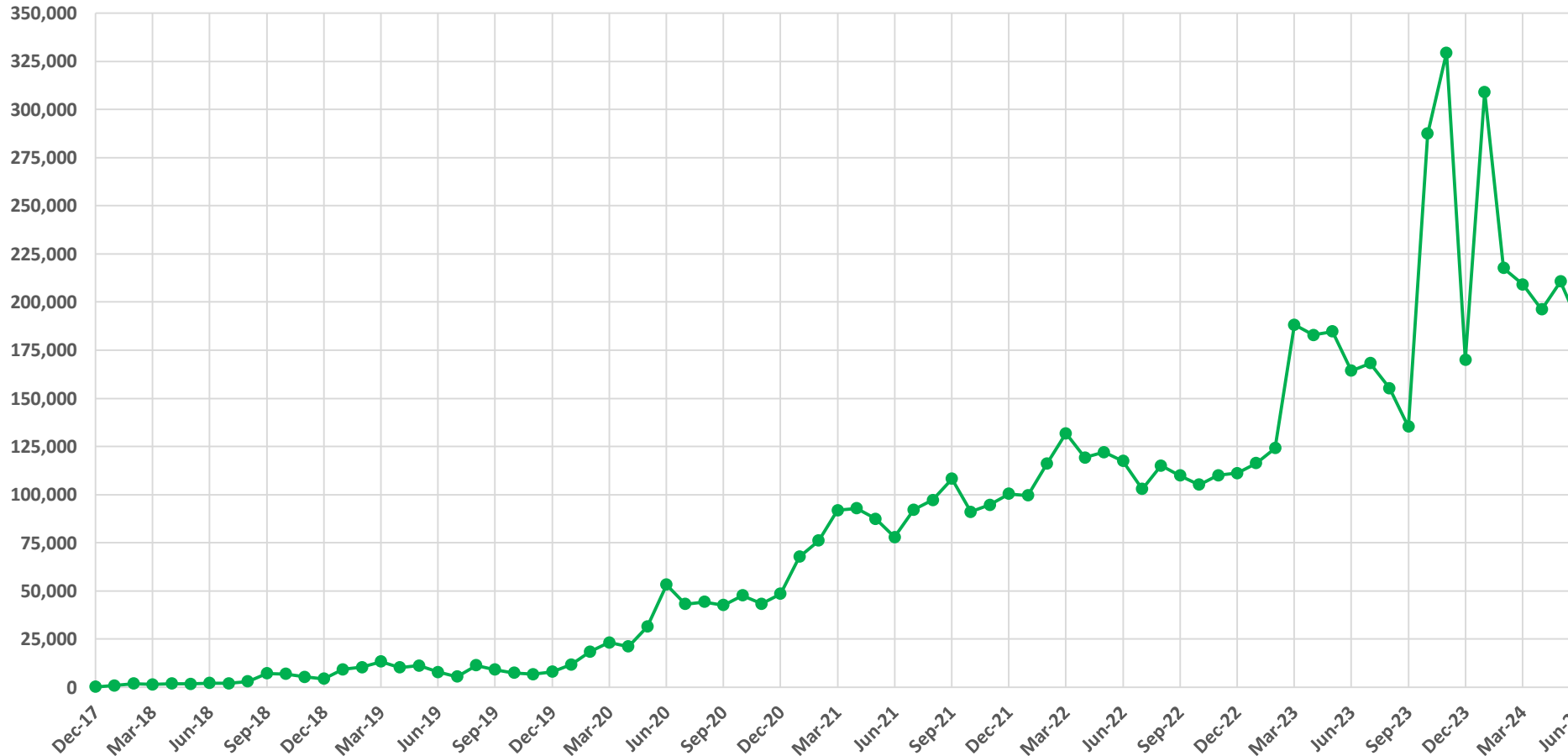
Registered: 9 (5 GeNS)

TOTAL: 133 (53 GeNS)

Data from www.ephytoexchange.org as per 30 June 2024

Overview of the IPPC ePhyto Solution

Number of ePhytos successfully exchanged through the Hub



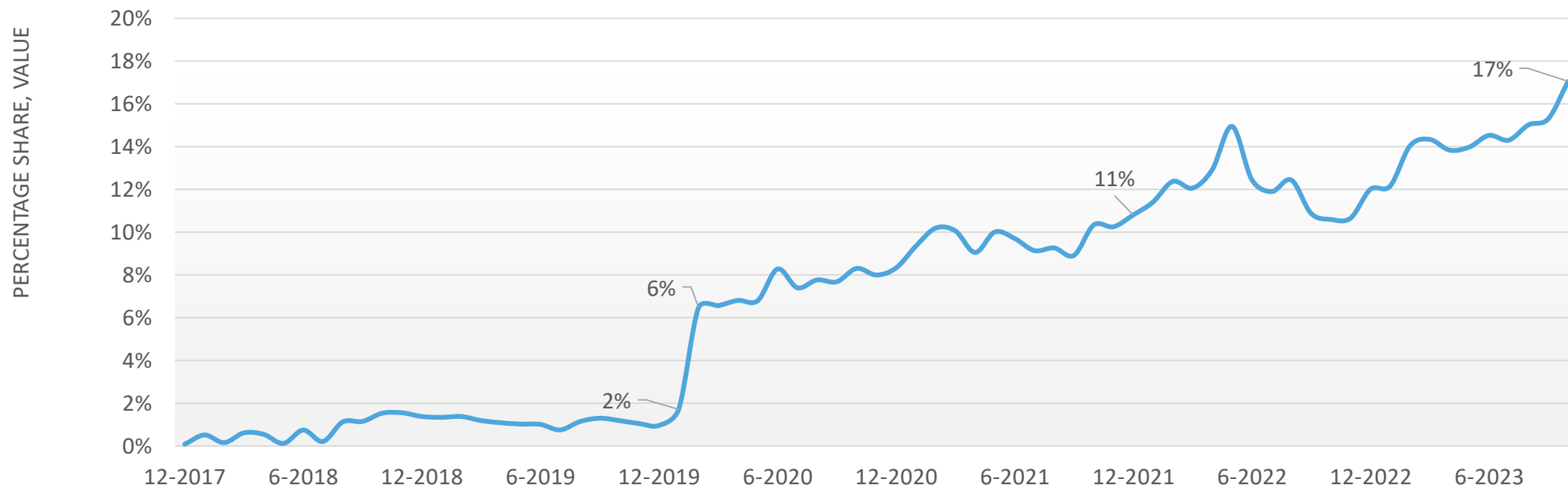
Total live
exchanges:
6,550,842

Data from www.ephytoexchange.org as per 30 June 2024

ePhyto and global trade

Steady increase of plants and plant products exports accompanied by ePhytos

Figure 1: Share of plants and plant products exports of ePhyto exporters in total plants and plant products exports, %



Source: FAO's CFI & EST

Global Alliance study in Morocco in 2022: ePhyto Time/Cost impact assessment



- Results from a study: IPPC ePhyto Solution has a significant impact among Moroccan operators
- Comparison of paper-based and electronic system for time/cost:
 - To obtain a phytosanitary certificate (phytosanitary request process)
 - To replace a rejected certificate (replacement certificate process): profit losses from spoilage and product depreciation, cost of sending documents, cost of penalties for late delivery, storage costs
- Total savings with ePhyto are estimated to be USD 37.4M and USD 43.2M for 2020 and 2021

<https://www.tradefacilitation.org/project/measurable-agri-food-trade-efficiencies/>

Current and future developments

- Maintenance and enhancements of the Hub & GeNS
 - Channel enhancements: linkage to other government systems
 - eSeal for consignments sent to the EU
 - eBilling with the GeNS operational
 - GeNS available in Arabic, English, French, **Russian and Spanish**
- ePhyto cost-benefit analysis along with ePhyto impact study on global trade
- Seeking long-term funding: funding model endorsed at CPM-18 as a transitional pilot, voluntary contribution
- NPPO workshops with the ePhyto Industry Advisory Group (IAG)
- Ongoing projects with the Global Alliance and World Bank for country support

Overview of the IPPC ePhyto Solution

Partnership/Collaboration

- Regional Plant Protection Organizations and regional institutions/programmes

- Global Alliance for Trade Facilitation of the World Economic Forum



- The Standards and Trade Development Facility



- The World Bank and International Finance Corporation



- World Customs Organization



- ePhyto Industry Advisory Group (IAG)

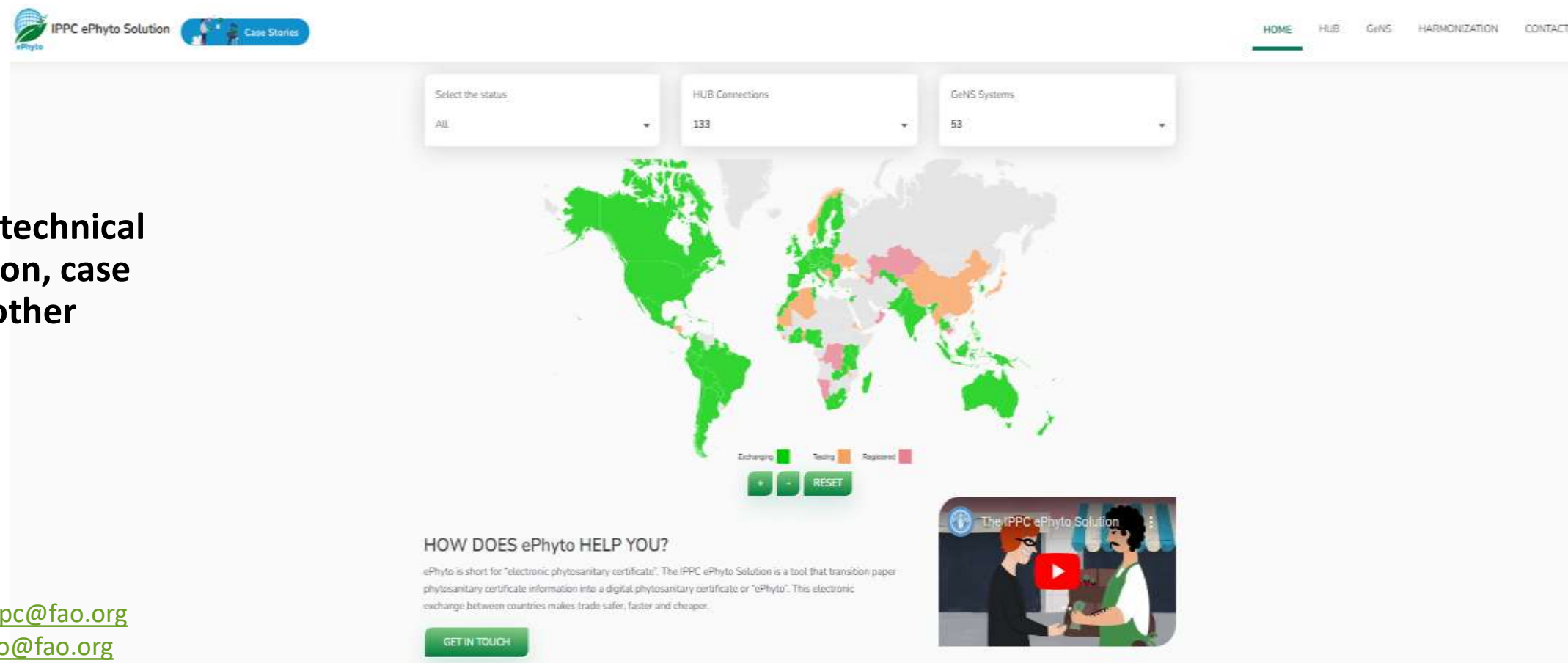


ePhyto website

www.ephytoexchange.org

**How to join, technical
documentation, case
studies and other
information!**

CONTACT:
IPPC Secretariat: ippc@fao.org
ePhyto: ippc-ephyto@fao.org



IPPC ePhyto Solution Case Stories

HOME HUB GeNS HARMONIZATION CONTACT

Select the status: All

HUB Connections: 133

GeNS Systems: 53

Exchanging Testing Registered

RESET

HOW DOES ePhyto HELP YOU?

ePhyto is short for "electronic phytosanitary certificate". The IPPC ePhyto Solution is a tool that transition paper phytosanitary certificate information into a digital phytosanitary certificate or "ePhyto". This electronic exchange between countries makes trade safer, faster and cheaper.

GET IN TOUCH

The IPPC ePhyto Solution



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations



International
Plant Protection
Convention

Thank you

IPPC Secretariat

Food and Agriculture Organization
of the United Nations (FAO)

ippc@fao.org | www.ippc.int

