



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations

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FAO DIGITAL SERVICES PORTFOLIO

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Working together for Zero Hunger
through digital innovation

INFORMATION NETWORK ON POST-HARVEST OPERATIONS (INPhO)

This platform facilitates access to technological solutions to help reduce food loss in developing countries. The information on the platform is accessible through four types of media – virtual reality, mobile phones, computers and audio.

ISSUE

INPhO was developed to respond to FAO member countries' need for technical information on food loss that is easy to access and download in a user-friendly format. The interactive platform provides relevant information on post-harvest handling technologies, appropriate food processing and packaging technologies, good transportation and handling practices, and recommended floor plan designs for simple food processing facilities and pack-houses. The information targets small farmers and post-harvest handlers,

as well as micro-, small- and medium-sized food processing operations and entrepreneurs, particularly in rural and remote areas of developing countries.

ACTION

The INPhO platform includes a document repository as well as an interactive platform that facilitates access to information on food processing, packaging and post-harvest systems management. It does so using virtual reality (VR), 3D interactive, augmented reality (AR), high-definition video and photographs.

- INPhO provides 3D models at no cost.
- INPhO is able to reach remote rural locations in developing countries with mobile telephones.
- INPhO supports and facilitates long-distance learning, virtual reality and interaction.
- INPhO reaches 112 countries on a weekly basis.



The platform allows people to view and experience the use of a technology. It can even be used for simulation and training. Many of the models included in INPhO are accessible using mobile devices, thereby allowing a broad range of users to take advantage of the simulation and training in virtual reality or augmented reality before experiencing it in a real-world scenario.

The platform has minimal requirements for internet connection and is readily accessible with a basic smart phone. In addition, information can be downloaded from the platform even in remote locations such as forests, deserts and other isolated areas.

MORE INFORMATION

INPhO platform: <http://www.fao.org/in-action/inpho/home/en/>



IMPACT

Member countries have direct and immediate on-line access to technical information on post-harvest handling, processing and packaging in a user-friendly format that is tailored to their specific needs. Clients of INPhO are exposed to a diversity of technical options that allows them to select the solution that fits their specific needs, and to identify the source of the solution. In this way, the platform allows users

to upgrade and streamline their facilities, operations and packaging, thereby enhancing their competitiveness and that of their products. This in turn contributes to improved incomes and enhanced livelihoods, as well as to overall food loss reduction.

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