

**ACTIVITIES DEVELOPED ON SANITARY AND PHYTOSANITARY (SPS)  
RELATED ISSUES**

Communication from the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB)

The following communication, received on 9 February 2011, is being circulated at the request of the IDB.

**I. CAPACITY BUILDING ON SPS RELATED ISSUES**

**A. DEMAND-DRIVEN CAPACITY BUILDING**

1. The Integration and Trade Sector (INT) has implemented capacity building activities for the Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC) government officials and private sector on SPS related issues. The objectives of these activities are: (i) to strengthen the Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC) capacity to address SPS related challenges and, (ii) to foster the technical knowledge on SPS related requirements to access specific markets.

**Beneficiaries:** The target audiences are government officials from the ministries of Agriculture, Trade and Health; SPS Agencies; Export Promotion Agencies; and the private sector from LAC countries.

**Methodology:** These capacity building activities are organized based on a demand-driven approach. They aim at delivering training courses according to the specific needs raised by a particular country or region. They are derived from client-driven needs with a short to medium term scope, and are rapid responses to demands emerging directly from the clients. The topics covered vary depending on the specific needs of the country or region where it will take place. These trainings are provided by INT experts, with the collaboration of other donors (FDA, USDA/APHIS, European Commission), international (WTO), regional (SIECA, IICA, OIRSA) and local (National Export Promotion Agencies, Chamber of Commerce) institutions.

2. The most recent SPS trainings implemented and in pipeline are as follows:

**Year 2010**

- (i) "Course on the Sanitary and Phytosanitary Requirement of the Main Importing Markets", 12-13 April 2010, Guatemala City, Guatemala;
- (ii) "Dissemination Round of the Guides to Exporting to the European Union", 4-22 April 2010, Central America.

**Year 2011**

- (i) "Course on the Sanitary and Phytosanitary Requirement of the Main Importing Markets", TBD, San Salvador, El Salvador.

**B. SUPPLY-DRIVEN CAPACITY BUILDINGS****(a) IDB/INTAL-WTO Capacity Building Programme**

3. The IDB, jointly with the WTO, has developed a Training Programme for trade negotiators in the framework of the Memorandum of Understanding signed by these institutions in February 2002. These trainings aim to strength the understanding and implementation of the WTO legal framework. Every year technical training is delivered on Agriculture Trade, SPS and/or TBT, and other subjects.

**Beneficiaries:** The training programme is directed to national government officials from Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC) whose working responsibilities are closely related to the process of trade negotiation at a multilateral level.

**Methodology:** Annually the list of courses and the agenda are designed jointly by the Division of Technical Cooperation of the WTO and the IDB. The content of the courses vary depending on the negotiation process dynamics related to the Doha Development Agenda and the specific needs of the countries of the region. The trainings are provided by INT and WTO experts, with the collaboration of national and regional institutions. The material and agenda of the trainings can be found at the INTAL website: "[http://www.iadb.org/intal/detalle\\_articulo.asp?idioma=esp&aid=844&cid=256&nivel=1](http://www.iadb.org/intal/detalle_articulo.asp?idioma=esp&aid=844&cid=256&nivel=1)".

**Trainings developed jointly by IDB/INTAL-WTO, 2005-2010**

<b>Specific scope</b>	
NAMA	11
SPS	5
Trade Facilitation	6
Dispute Settlement	5
Trade and Environment	2
Trade and Development	5
Service	2
Agriculture	5
Others	3
<b>Generic scope</b>	
Regional Trade Policy	6
WTO Negotiations Status	5
Regional and Multilateral Trade Agreements	5
Seminar for Academics on WTO Negotiations	2
Seminar for Parliamentary on WTO Negotiations	1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>63</b>

	<b>By Region</b>	
	<b>LA</b>	<b>Caribbean</b>
2005	8	1
2006	9	4
2007	7	5
2008	10	4
2009	6	2
2010	7	2
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>18</b>

4. The last SPS-related trainings implemented and in the pipeline are as follows:

**Year 2010**

- (i) WTO/IDB Regional Seminar on Agriculture, 26-28 April 2010, Buenos Aires, Argentina;
- (ii) WTO/IDB SPS Regional Seminar for Latin America, November, Lima, Peru.

**Year 2011**

- (i) WTO/IDB SPS Regional Seminar for the Caribbean, TBD

**II. SPS DATABASE**

5. The Integration and Trade Sector (INT) has developed a database (INTradeBID) that provides access to accurate and updated information about trade agreements, market access, trade statistics and indicators. It includes a set of applications that facilitates the understanding, analysis and implementation of trade agreements. It contains a specific module on sanitary and phytosanitary measures (SPS), which provides information on:

- (i) SPS related commitments negotiated in the regional trade agreements;
- (ii) Specific Trade Concerns raised before the WTO SPS Committee;
- (iii) Private standards;
- (iv) Import refusals by the United States and European Union due to the lack of compliance with SPS related requirements;
- (v) SPS related requirements to export agricultural products to some specific countries.

6. The SPS Database is available at: <http://www.iadb.org/topics/trade/int/tools/sps/Default.aspx>

**III. LOAN PROJECTS**

7. INT has lead and provided technical input to IDB loan projects which have an SPS component. Some examples of the most recent projects approved and in the pipeline are as follows:

Project	Title	Beneficiary	Value	Year
BL-L1009	Agricultural Services Programme	Belize	5,000,000	2009
JA-L1012	Agricultural Competitiveness Programme	Jamaica	16,000,000	2010
RG-T1679	Harmonized System for Bovine Traceability in Central America, Belize, Panama and the Dominican Republic	Central America	1,900,000	2009
IIC-FinPyme	FINPYME Export Plus	Guatemala	300.000	2010

**IV. RESEARCH**

8. INT has developed research on recent trends, challenges and opportunities in the field of SPS. Some examples of the recent publications are as follows:

- (i) "The Treatment of Agriculture in Regional Trade Agreements in the Americas", Matthew Shearer, Juliana Salles Almeida, Carlos Gutierrez. IDB Working Paper, November 2009 - Paper launched jointly with the IPC in Salzburg, May 2009 and in Washington DC, October 2009. Document available at: "<http://www.iadb.org/publications/search.cfm?query=The+Treatment+of+Agriculture+in+Regional+Trade+Agreements+&context=all&lang=en&searchLang=all&searchtype=general>";
- (ii) "SPS Import Requirements to Access the EU Market", Thierry Woller, Juliana Salles Almeida, IDB Technical Note, April 2010. "<http://www.iadb.org/topics/trade/int/tools/sps/Publications.aspx>";

- (iii) "SPS Import Requirements to Access the Asian Market (Japan, Korea, China and Singapore)", Juliana Salles Almeida, Shin Kwew, IDB (forthcoming August 2011);
  - (iv) "The Treatment of Agriculture in Trade Agreements around the World: lessons learned and best practices", Linda Fulponi, Matthew Shearer, Juliana Salles Almeida, OECD/ IDB Joint Working Paper (forthcoming March 2011).
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