

**TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TO DEVELOPING COUNTRIES**

Communication from Canada

The following communication, received on 24 June 2011, is being circulated at the request of the Delegation of Canada.

1. Canada would like to provide an update to Members regarding the provision of technical assistance from January to December 2009.<sup>1</sup> Technical assistance has been provided to developing countries in accordance with Article 9 of the *Agreement on the Application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) Measures*. The assistance was primarily aimed at facilitating the development and implementation of sanitary and phytosanitary measures based on sound science. The attached table reflects Canadian technical assistance in 2009. While every effort has been made to ensure that information contained in the table presents all relevant technical assistance projects, it may not constitute a complete compilation of technical assistance delivered given the number of Canadian government departments and agencies and the variety of delivery programs involved.
2. The monetary value of the technical assistance committed amounted to approximately CDN \$17 million between January and December 2009. It should be noted that, in many cases, the organizations providing the assistance also made additional in-kind contributions to projects.
3. Assistance was provided to more than 40 Member, Observer and other countries, in Central America, South America, the Asia-Pacific region, Central Asia, and Africa. Assistance was directed to both individual countries and groups of countries or regional organizations.
4. Canada's assistance addressed three of the four broad categories listed in G/SPS/GEN/206: information; training; and "soft" infrastructure development (but not "hard" infrastructure development). Assistance from Canada covered most of the "typical areas of competence" listed under the headings of food safety, animal health and plant protection, in the Annex of G/SPS/GEN/206.
5. In all, 11 projects are listed for the period January to December 2009. Some of the projects listed are multi-year projects; however, projects are only reported once and generally in the year in which the project is initiated unless subsequent funded project extensions occur.

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<sup>1</sup> One table is attached identifying technical assistance committed to developing countries in 2009. Canada has provided technical assistance updates for 2008 (G/SPS/GEN/1027), 2007 (G/SPS/GEN/1008), 2005-2006 (G/SPS/GEN/765), 2000-2004 (G/SPS/GEN/728), and for years prior to 2000 (G/SPS/GEN/143/Rev.1/Add.1).

Technical Assistance Provided by Canada to Members, Observers and Other Countries:  
January to December 2009

<b>Sector</b>	<b>Description of Particular Programme</b>	<b>Form of Assistance</b>	<b>Provided to</b>	<b>Contact</b>
Animal Health	Diagnostic and epidemiology methodology technical transfer to governments in South America to enhance foot-and-mouth disease (FMD) preparedness and response in the region over a period of two years. (2008-2010) Additional contribution. (2009)	Training	Bolivia, Plurinational State of, Columbia, Ecuador, Peru, Venezuela	Dorothy.Geale@inspection.gc.ca
Animal Health	Training for two Brazilian veterinarians in traceability from farm to slaughter in bovine animal herds. (2009)	Training	Brazil	rolf.schoenert@inspection.gc.ca
Animal Health	Rural Capacity Building Program (RCBP) Project co-financed by CIDA and the World Bank (WB). Activities related to SPS, as a sub-component of the "Agricultural Marketing and SPS component", are directed to animal health and include construction and equipping of two quarantine stations (WB) and long-term training of veterinarians in epidemiology and short term training in meat inspection and lab diagnostics (CIDA). (2007-2012)	Capacity Building	Ethiopia	elise.rafuse@acdi-cida.gc.ca
Animal Health	Month-long Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy (BSE) prevention and response training provided to two Department of Agriculture scientists from the Philippines. (April 2009)	Training	Philippines	rolf.schoenert@inspection.gc.ca
Food Safety	Food Contaminants Surveillance Workshop provided to 11 Brazilian delegates with a purpose to explain Canada's food safety system, including: legislation, contaminant surveillance programs, program delivery, food recalls, response protocols, the enforcement and investigative program, and the laboratory operations in support of surveillance. (December 2009)	Training	Brazil	rolf.schoenert@inspection.gc.ca
Plant Health & Food Safety	Assistance improving bean crop production through the development and dissemination of bean varieties resistant to drought, disease and pests, in order to increase nutrition and food security of rural populations in 28 African countries. Capacity building in integrated pest and disease management strategies,	Capacity Building	Pan-Africa	linh.trinh@acdi-cida.gc.ca

Sector	Description of Particular Programme	Form of Assistance	Provided to	Contact
	laboratory training and technical backstopping to strengthen capacity and developmental activities including seed quality control, safe packaging and development of standards. Implementation of a national surveillance programme for bean pests and diseases for early detection and management. Development of disease resistant snap bean varieties to facilitate SPS compliance for snap bean exporters in regional and international markets. Assessment and management of aflotoxins for safe storage. Policy advocacy working with COMESA to promote regional trade in beans while addressing any SPS constraints that may constitute a hindrance to trade. (2009-2013)			
Plant Health & Food Safety	Assisting regional organizations to disseminate improved crop varieties (e.g. quality protein maize) to farmers and improve marketing of agriculture in national and international spheres. This five-year project forms part of Phase III of the Forum for Agricultural Research in Africa aimed at stimulating agricultural development, increasing economic growth, improving health and food security, food safety, and enhancing the quality of the environment. (2009-2014)	Capacity Building	East Africa	marie.claude@acdi-cida.gc.ca
Plant Health & Food Safety	The establishment of a network of agricultural research experts who will support African countries to develop and implement their national agriculture strategies. This five-year project forms part of Phase III of the Forum for Agricultural Research in Africa aimed at stimulating agricultural development, increasing economic growth, improving health and food security, food safety, and enhancing the quality of the environment. (2009-2014)	Capacity Building	Pan-Africa	marie.claude@acdi-cida.gc.ca
Plant Health & Food Safety	Agricultural development. Multi-year project to assist 9,000 producers increase production and marketing of onions, garlic, potatoes, beans, tomatoes, cabbages, limes, watermelons, mangoes, papayas, and strawberries in the Niayes region of Senegal, while simultaneously protecting the natural resources of	Training	Senegal	isabelle.laroche@acdi-cida.gc.ca

Sector	Description of Particular Programme	Form of Assistance	Provided to	Contact
	the region. Emphasis is placed on the safe handling of chemicals and pesticides, as well as the adoption of sanitary and phytosanitary measures with respect to cultivation and production. (2009-2015)			
Plant Health & Food Safety	Food safety system study tour under CIDA-funded Food and Agriculture Products Quality project (2006-2011). Ten days of training was provided to delegates from the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development in an effort to impart plant health and food safety knowledge and expertise. (October 2009)	Training	Viet Nam	rolf.schoenert@inspection.gc.ca
Animal Health, Plant Health & Food Safety	Global initiative to review, improve and strengthen the use of the Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) for food crisis management purposes. (2009-2012)	Funding	Global	CIDA