

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TO DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

Communication from Canada

The following communication received on 23 March 2012, is being circulated at the request of the Delegation of Canada.

1. Canada would like to provide an update regarding the provision of technical assistance from January to December 2010.¹ 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 2010. 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 Can\$10 million between January and December 2010. 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 13 countries, in Central America, South America, the Caribbean, the Asia-Pacific region, 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, nine projects are listed for the period January to December 2010. 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.

¹ One table is attached identifying technical assistance committed to developing countries in 2010. Canada has provided technical assistance updates for 2009 (G/SPS/GEN/1099), 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

January 2010- December 2010

Sector	Description of Particular Programme	Form of Assistance	Provided to	Contact
Animal Health	Provided recommendations to the Belize Agricultural Health Authority (BAHA) on developing preparedness and response plans for an outbreak of a serious avian disease. (18-31 October 2009)	Training	Belize	Rolf.Schoenert@inspection.gc.ca
Plant Health	Hosted a workshop for 12 African officials from five countries to explain the regulatory process post field trial stage focussing on Canadian environmental safety assessments and food and feed safety assessments that inform Canadian field trial approvals. (10 September 2010)	Training	Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania, South Africa, Mozambique	Rolf.Schoenert@inspection.gc.ca
Food Safety	Two workshops for government seafood inspectors and Thai canned seafood exporters focussed on canned sardine sensory evaluation. (19-26 June 2010)	Training	Thailand	Rolf.Schoenert@inspection.gc.ca
Food Safety	Information-sharing with the Division of Agricultural Commodity and Food Standards Policy, National Bureau of Agricultural Commodity and Food Standards (ACFS), Royal Thai Government on areas of interest related to food safety policy and measures. (18 March 2010)	Capacity Building	Thailand	Rolf.Schoenert@inspection.gc.ca
Plant Health & Food Safety	Response to a Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) request to prepare and host a week-long study tour for two delegates from each of St. Lucia and St. Vincent and the Grenadines. Areas of interest included procedures and treatment for consignment in transit, mechanisms to deal with re-exported commodities, procedures related to inspection, methods of destruction, and specific topics related to plant health and quarantine. (14-18 June 2010)	Capacity Building	Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent & the Grenadines	Rolf.Schoenert@inspection.gc.ca

Sector	Description of Particular Programme	Form of Assistance	Provided to	Contact
Animal Health, Plant Health & Food Safety	Information sharing to assist in the formulation of a national strategy on standardisation and related accreditation and management systems for animal health, plant health and food safety in Thailand. (25 May 2010)	Capacity Building	Thailand	Rolf.Schoenert@inspection.gc.ca
Animal Health, Plant Health & Food Safety	One week study tour to Canada on inspection and quarantine by a four member delegation from the Bureau of Animal and Plant Health Inspection & Quarantine (BAPHIQ) to inform authorities on Canada's federal inspection and quarantine systems. (27 November – 4 December 2010)	Capacity Building	Chinese Taipei	Rolf.Schoenert@inspection.gc.ca
Animal Health, Plant Health & Food Safety	Canada-Americas Trade-Related Technical Assistance (CATRTA) Program. CIDA funded multi-year program to provide trade-related technical assistance to CIDA partner countries in the Americas that have negotiated or are currently negotiating a free trade agreement with Canada. SPS is one of six project thematic for the program. Projects in animal health, plant health and food safety capacity building to enhance trade are supported under this thematic. (2010-2016)	Capacity Building	Columbia, Honduras, Peru	Dean.Moser@acdi-cida.gc.ca
Animal Health, Plant Health & Food Safety	Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) – Aid for Trade Strategic Fund A multi-million dollar contribution to the IDB fund directed to trade facilitation and implementation of SPS standards to enable countries in the Americas to benefit from liberalised trade and increased market access. Funds are directed to initiatives that facilitate overcoming supply-side constraints in meeting importing country SPS requirements. (March 2010)	Funding	Latin America and the Caribbean	Yvon.Marsolais@acdi-cida.gc.ca