

**INFORMATION ON SPS-RELATED RECENT AND FORTHCOMING ASSISTANCE AND  
OTHER ACTIVITIES FROM THE INTERNATIONAL TRADE CENTRE (ITC)  
(APRIL-JUNE 2012)**

The following communication, received on 9 July 2012, is being circulated at the request of the ITC.

**I. PROJECTS**

**A. ENHANCED INTEGRATED FRAMEWORK (EIF) - SECTOR COMPETITIVENESS AND EXPORT DIVERSIFICATION IN THE GAMBIA (2012-2015)**

1. The EIF-funded project, approved in April 2012, with ITC as Executing Agency, aims at responding to some of the trade related development priorities of The Gambia as identified in its Diagnostic Trade Integration Study (DTIS). The project's development objective is to reduce poverty through activities that (a) strengthen targeted sectors competitiveness, (b) promote new business opportunities in domestic, regional and international markets and (c) generate additional incomes and create employment. The project targets at:

- (a) Agri-sector specific support for cashew nuts, groundnuts and sesame; Key focus will be on finding new export opportunities, product diversification, improved value-addition, quality enhancement and strengthened sector support institutions (Component A).
- (b) Provision of cross-cutting assistance in the areas of trade information (Component B) and inclusive tourism (Component C).

2. The Quality Enhancement component of the project will address product food safety and quality issues and address technical barriers hindering market access of Gambian exports of groundnuts, cashew nuts, and sesame by implementing activities which will include:

- Upgrading NARI's lab testing capacity and recognition at international level (aflatoxin);
- Developing standards for groundnuts, cashew nuts and sesame;
- Providing training and tools for enhanced quality segregation of groundnuts by quality control inspectors;

- Enhancing food safety of groundnuts through implementation of HACCP<sup>1</sup> and pre-requisites such as GAP<sup>2</sup> and GMP<sup>3</sup>;
- Developing a Quality Assurance Framework for cashew nuts and sesame;
- Enhancing farmer capacity to grow groundnuts, cashew nuts and sesame of better quality and higher productivity through Farmer Field School Approach.

**B. PERU - EXPORT DEVELOPMENT IN PERU'S NORTHERN CORRIDOR**

3. The export quality management component of the project has the objective to build the capacity of Trade Related Institutions (such as Promperu) in the Costa area of Peru to complement their programmes aimed at enhancing the competitiveness of small enterprises through compliance with food hygiene and safety requirements in international markets and enhance and increase their exports. The project (April 2012 – March 2013) will assist small and mediums-sized enterprises to understand and implement food safety systems based on HACCP through the sustainable support of selected Trainers-cum-Counsellors (TcC) from the region. The project is funded by the Economic Cooperation and Development Division at the State Secretariat for Economic Affairs (SECO). In April-May 2012, the project delivered training on Implementing Food Safety Systems according to HACCP to ten trainers-cum-Counsellors and representatives from eleven agro and agro-processed enterprises from Chiclayo and Piura and conducted gap analysis conducted against HACCP in the selected enterprises and designed their road map for improvement. The next mission of the National consultant is planned in August 2012 to continue the practical training on implementing HACCP of the TcC and enterprises.

**C. NETHERLANDS TRUST FUND (NTF II) - SENEGAL**

4. The project, funded by the Netherlands, has the objective to create a competitive and sustainable value chain for mango export to Europe from the Niayes region in Senegal.

5. Within the framework of the project, the ITC Quality component assists mango exporters to access the EU market and improve their competitiveness. Between January 2012 and March 2013 ITC with the support of ASEPEX and other Trade Support Institutions is assisting selected producers and exporters to obtain certification for GlobalGAP and organic farming. National consultants conducted the diagnostic analysis of three enterprises and two groups of farmers and will delivered the technical assistance to implement the requirements until March 2013.

6. A programme of short training and communication courses is being held along the supply chain: for the producers to prevent and treat fruit fly infestation and implement good agricultural practices; for the exporters on good cold chain practice; for key operators on understanding of mandatory and voluntary requirements. To monitor the sanitary compliance of mango with the EU regulation on Maximum Residue Limits (MRL), a series of analysis on pesticide residue will be conducted by the local lab.

**II. OTHER ITC PROJECTS OF INTEREST**

**A. TRADE FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT (T4SD)**

7. ITC's Standards Map allows users to compare private standards with regards to, for example, social, environmental and economic criteria, geographic and product-related scopes, compliance

---

<sup>1</sup> Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Points

<sup>2</sup> Good Agricultural Practice

<sup>3</sup> Good Manufacturing Practice

policies and requirements for implementation. Compliance to these standards is not legally required by governments or regulations, but it could lead to more sustainable social and environmental practices and improved competitiveness for exporters.

8. As of June 2012, Standards Map covers 75 private standards developed by non-governmental organizations, companies, multi-stakeholder coalitions and other private entities. The new standards loaded include SMETA Best Practice Guidance, Electronics Industry Code of Conduct (EICC), International Sustainability & Carbon Certification (ISCC), Primus GFS, TerraChoice and Food Justice Certified. The team is working on additional 10 standards that will be loaded on the website by the end of August 2012, including Global Reporting Initiative (GRI), Global Social Compliance Programme (GSCP) and The European Ecolabel, among others. The T4SD team also published several papers in the past months, among which a paper series on the impacts of private standards in global value chains (part 1), on producers level (part 2) and on the interplay of public and private standards (part 3). The three papers are accessible at: <http://www.standardsmap.org>

9. In collaboration with the Sustainable Agriculture Initiative (SAI) Platform, the Dutch Sustainable Trade Initiative (IDH) and IMD's Corporate Sustainability Management Platform (CSM) the team is also developing a business guide for sustainable sourcing. This guide will lay-out the key issues companies need to take into consideration when planning and implementing a sustainable sourcing strategy, with particular focus on developing a sustainable supply chain. Illustrating the main challenges in developing sustainable supply chains, this guide will develop a set of concrete actions and strategic responses to support businesses in dealing with sustainability issues along the supply chain. The final publication is expected in December 2012.

10. We aim to have approximately 110 standards fully loaded on the website by the end of 2012. Should you be interested in a live demonstration of the website or in a webinar, please contact Joseph Wozniak, Program Manager ([wozniak@intracen.org](mailto:wozniak@intracen.org)).

#### B. NON-TARIFF MEASURES (NTM) PROJECT

11. ITC NTM report for Morocco has been published and released to the public and is now also available on ITC's website at: "<http://www.intracen.org/maroc-perspectives-des-entreprises-serie-sur-les-mesures-non-tarifaires>".

12. At the request of the WTO Secretariat and the Mission of Barbados in Geneva, a presentation of ITC's NTM programme was made at the small and vulnerable economies (SVEs) Strategic Brainstorming on Non-Tariff Trade Measures held at the WTO on 10 May 2012. A number of SVEs are beneficiary of the programme, including Jamaica, Trinidad and Tobago, and Mauritius.

13. ITC also successfully launched the non-tariff measures (NTM) survey in two more countries (Cote D'Ivoire and Guinea) during the period March - June 2012. Upcoming countries include Indonesia and Tanzania.

14. For more information about ITC's NTM project, please contact Ms Poonam Mohun, NTM Market Analyst, Market Analysis and Research, ITC, Tel: +41 22 730 0277 - Fax: +41 22 730 0577 - Email: [mohun@intracen.org](mailto:mohun@intracen.org).

For more information:

Khemraj Ramful, ITC Senior Adviser on Export Quality Management

Tel: +41 22 730 04 87 - Fax: +41 22 730 05 76 - E-mail: ramful@intracen.org

Ludovica Ghizzoni, ITC Adviser on Export Quality Management

Tel: +41 22 730 06 38 - Fax: +41 22 730 05 76 - E-mail: ghizzoni@intracen.org

Web address: <http://www.intracen.org/exporters/quality-management/>

E-mail: quality@intracen.org

---