



**Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures**

**UPDATE ON THE OPERATION OF THE STANDARDS AND  
TRADE DEVELOPMENT FACILITY**

NOTE BY THE SECRETARIAT<sup>1</sup>

**1 OVERVIEW**

1.1. The Standards and Trade Development Facility (STDF) supports developing countries in building capacity to implement international food safety, animal and plant health standards, guidelines and recommendations and gain and maintain access to markets. More specifically, the STDF raises awareness on the importance of enhancing SPS capacity and strengthens collaboration between providers of SPS assistance. The STDF also provides support and funding for the development and implementation of projects that promote compliance with international SPS standards and requirements.

1.2. The STDF is a partnership established by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE), the World Bank, the World Health Organization (WHO) and the World Trade Organization (WTO). Other organizations involved in SPS-related technical cooperation, donors contributing funds to the STDF and developing country experts participate actively in the Facility's work. The Secretariats of the Codex Alimentarius Commission and the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC) also participate.

1.3. Delegates who would like to receive more information on the STDF are invited to visit the STDF website and subscribe to the STDF electronic mailing list.<sup>2</sup> The next STDF Working Group meeting will be held on **20-21 October 2016**.

**2 STDF SEMINAR ON ELECTRONIC SPS CERTIFICATION - JUNE 2016**

2.1. The STDF seminar on 28 June 2016 brought together over 150 participants from WTO Members, international organizations and global business. Speakers shared the latest knowledge and good practice on automated systems operating worldwide and their impact on facilitating trade by cutting time and costs. Electronic SPS certification can contribute to faster movement of food and agricultural products and to reduced transaction costs. It can do this through improving compliance with regulations and policies, reducing errors and fraud, supporting risk management and enhancing trust among partners. Processes, institutions and legislation need to be in place to support the transition from paper to electronic certification systems.

2.2. A podcast of the seminar, as well copies of the presentations, are available on the STDF website.<sup>3</sup> A short background paper will be issued by the end of this year to provide clarification on terminology and an overview of electronic systems currently available in the areas of food safety, animal and plant health.

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<sup>1</sup> This document has been prepared under the Secretariat's own responsibility and is without prejudice to the positions of Members or to their rights and obligations under the WTO.

<sup>2</sup> See: <http://www.standardsfacility.org/>.

<sup>3</sup> See: <http://www.standardsfacility.org/STDF-eCert-Seminar>.

### 3 JOINT EIF/STDF ANALYSIS ON SPS ISSUES IN DTIS STUDIES

3.1. The STDF and the Enhanced Integrated Framework (EIF) Secretariat<sup>4</sup> have undertaken a joint study that analyses the coverage of SPS issues in EIF Diagnostic Trade Integration Studies (DTIS)<sup>5</sup> and identifies good practice for future studies and their implementation. The study highlights good practice and makes several practical and strategic recommendations to improve the analysis on SPS issues in the DTIS process, enhance capacity to implement SPS-related actions and to promote synergies between EIF and STDF-related processes. This includes recommendations to make better use of relevant SPS-related capacity evaluation tools and to consider ways to actively engage SPS agencies and ministries at national level as well as international organizations (such as FAO) in the DTIS process. An EIF/STDF briefing note, highlighting the scope, findings and recommendations of this joint work is available on the EIF and STDF websites.<sup>6</sup> The study will be made available in November 2016 on the EIF and STDF websites.

### 4 PRIORITIZING SPS INVESTMENTS FOR MARKET ACCESS (P-IMA)

4.1. In 2016, the STDF published the user guide "Prioritizing SPS Investments for Market Access (P-IMA): A framework to inform and improve SPS decision-making processes". An information session on P-IMA was organized for SPS delegates on the margins of the SPS Committee in March 2016, which generated a lot of interest. To date, this framework has been used to prioritize SPS investment options in ten developing countries that differ considerably in the scale and diversity of their food and agricultural exports, and the range and magnitude of SPS capacity-building needs.<sup>7</sup> The experiences highlight several benefits, for instance to facilitate public-private dialogue on SPS matters, increase political awareness about the benefits of strengthening SPS capacity, inform and improve national SPS planning and decision-making processes, support project design and leverage additional funding resources.

4.2. The P-IMA user guide, as well as a short briefing note, is available for download on the STDF website.<sup>8</sup> Delegates from developing countries who would like to have more information on how to use and benefit from the P-IMA framework are encouraged to contact the Secretariat.

### 5 PROJECT DEVELOPMENT

5.1. The STDF provides advice and support to applicants on issues related to SPS project development and finances project preparation grants (PPGs). PPGs, normally up to US\$50,000, are available to help applicants articulate their SPS needs and develop technically sound and sustainable project proposals. PPGs can be requested to: (i) apply SPS capacity evaluation and prioritization tools; (ii) prepare feasibility studies before project development to assess the potential impact and economic viability of proposals in terms of costs and benefits; and (iii) develop project proposals for funding by donors or the STDF.

5.2. A total of **74 PPGs** have been approved and funded by the STDF since its inception. Information on on-going and completed PPGs is available on the STDF website.<sup>9</sup> The STDF Working Group may approve additional PPGs for funding at its next meeting on 20-21 October 2016.

### 6 PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION

6.1. Project grant financing up to a maximum of US\$1,000,000 is available from the STDF. Favourable consideration is given to projects that: (i) identify, develop and dissemination good practice in SPS-related technical cooperation, including the development and application of innovative and replicable approaches; (ii) apply regional approaches to address SPS constraints;

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<sup>4</sup> The EIF is a trade capacity building programme for Least Developed Countries (LDCs). For more information, see: <http://www.enhancedif.org/en/about/how-does-it-work>.

<sup>5</sup> The DTIS is the cornerstone of the EIF in LDCs to mainstream and integrate trade into national development plans. The DTIS sets the basis for all subsequent interventions and establishes priorities to increase exports from LDCs.

<sup>6</sup> See: [http://www.standardsfacility.org/sites/default/files/STDF\\_Briefing\\_no12\\_EN.pdf](http://www.standardsfacility.org/sites/default/files/STDF_Briefing_no12_EN.pdf).

<sup>7</sup> Belize, Ethiopia, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, Rwanda, Seychelles, Uganda, Viet Nam and Zambia.

<sup>8</sup> See <http://www.standardsfacility.org/prioritizing-sps-investments-market-access-p-ima>.

<sup>9</sup> See: <http://www.standardsfacility.org/projectpreparationgrants>.

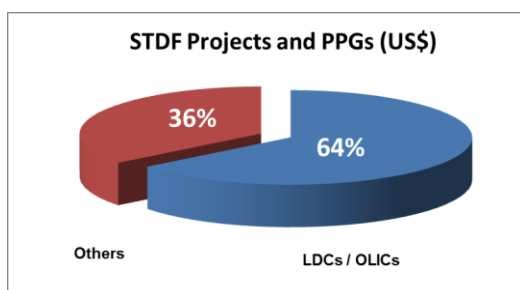
and/or (iii) implement collaborative approaches across food safety, animal and plant health and trade.

6.2. Beneficiaries must contribute to the project from their own resources, either in the form of financial or in-kind contributions such as staff time, use of premises, vehicles or other existing assets.

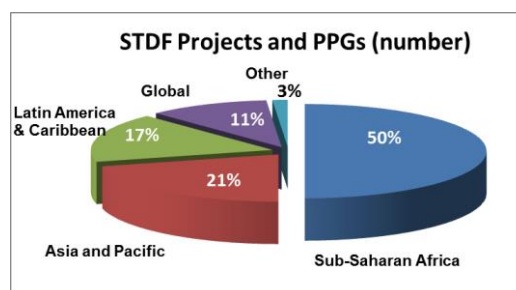
6.3. A total of **75 projects** have been approved for STDF funding since its inception. Information on on-going and completed PGs is available on the STDF website.<sup>10</sup> The STDF Working Group may approve additional projects for funding at its next meeting on 20-21 October 2016, depending on the resources available in the STDF trust fund.

6.4. Annex 1 provides an overview of on-going STDF projects and PPGs. Since its inception, the STDF has devoted 64% of its project and PPG resources to LDCs and other low income countries (OLICs), as shown below in Figure 1. Hence, the STDF continues meeting its target to devote at least 40% of its project and PPG resources to LDCs and OLICs. In particular the allocation of PPG resources to LDCs and OLICs remains high (i.e. 78% of the overall budget for PPGs).

**Figure 1: STDF projects and PPGs (US\$)**



**Figure 2: STDF Projects and PPGs (number)**



6.5. Figure 2 above indicates that 50% of the number of STDF projects and PPGs has gone to Sub-Saharan Africa, 21% to Asia, and 17% to Latin America and the Caribbean. In addition, 11% of STDF projects and PPGs can be classified as global.

6.6. Applications for STDF funding can be made at any point in the year but should be received at least 60 working days in advance of each Working Group meeting in order to be considered at that meeting. The next deadline for the submission of applications is **26 December 2016**. Further information on eligibility criteria, application forms, etc. is available on the STDF website.

Recommended steps to follow when seeking PG or PPG funding opportunities with the STDF:

1. Browse our PPG <http://www.standardsfacility.org/projectpreparationgrants> and PG <http://www.standardsfacility.org/projectgrants> webpages for examples of previous projects.
2. Carefully read our guidance note for applicants: [http://standardsfacility.org/sites/default/files/STDFGuidanceNote\\_English\\_FINAL\\_2015.pdf](http://standardsfacility.org/sites/default/files/STDFGuidanceNote_English_FINAL_2015.pdf)
3. Consult relevant stakeholders in the country/region.
4. Send us a brief concept note of your potential project for feedback on eligibility and likelihood of funding ([STDFSecretariat@wto.org](mailto:STDFSecretariat@wto.org)).
5. Fill out an application form (<http://www.standardsfacility.org/application-forms>) and submit it electronically before the deadline.

<sup>10</sup> See: <http://www.standardsfacility.org/projectgrants>.

## ANNEX 1

### OVERVIEW OF ONGOING STDF PROJECTS AND PROJECT PREPARATION GRANTS

#### PROJECTS

| Ref. No.    | Title  | Beneficiary  | Implementing entity   | Start Date | End Date                                      | STDF Contribution (US\$) |
|-------------|--|--|---|------------|---|--------------------------|
| STDF/PG/242 | Strategy to strengthen the SPS system in Comoros   | Comoros  | United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)   | 17-Sep-12  | 15-Mar-17                                     | \$1,033,673              |
| STDF/PG/303 | Regional Total Diet Study for Sub-Saharan Africa   | Benin, Cameroon, Mali, Nigeria   | Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)                               | 01-Apr-14  | 31-Mar-17                                     | \$1,063,708              |
| STDF/PG/316 | Strengthening phytosanitary inspection and diagnostic services in Azerbaijan                         | Azerbaijan   | Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)                               | 01-Sep-14  | 28-Feb-17                                     | \$1,000,000              |
| STDF/PG/321 | Building trade capacity of small-scale shrimp and prawn farmers in Bangladesh                        | Bangladesh   | Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)                               | 01-Apr-12  | 30-Jun-16<br>(awaiting final project report)  | \$568,750                |
| STDF/PG/337 | ASEAN Pesticide Residue Data Generation Project  | ASEAN member states  | Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN)  | 01-Dec-12  | 30-Nov-16                                     | \$607,000                |
| STDF/PG/343 | Competency development scheme for the cinnamon sector in Sri Lanka                                   | Sri Lanka  | United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO)                                  | 01-Jul-12  | 30-Sep -16                                    | \$630,000                |
| STDF/PG/344 | Establishment of a Regional Virtual Food Inspection School in Central America and Dominican Republic | Central America, Dominican Republic                                    | Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA)                              | 01-Jul-12  | 30-Jun-16<br>(awaiting final project report)  | \$905,225                |
| STDF/PG/345 | Feed and Food Security Programme for Latin America and the Caribbean                                 | Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Costa Rica, Mexico, Paraguay, Peru, Uruguay  | Asociación de las Industrias de Alimentación Animal de América Latina y Caribe (FEEDLATINA) | 15-Feb-14  | 14-Feb-17                                     | \$991,100                |
| STDF/PG/346 | Breaking barriers, facilitating trade in COMESA member states  | COMESA members   | Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA)                                      | 01-Nov-14  | 31-Oct-17                                     | \$902,690                |
| STDF/PG/354 | Improving Safety and Quality of Fruits and Vegetables in Sri Lanka                                   | Sri Lanka  | International Trade Centre (ITC)  | 01-Mar-13  | 30-June-16<br>(awaiting final project report) | \$562,484                |
| STDF/PG/359 | African Pesticide Residue Data Generation Project  | Benin, Cameroon, Ghana, Kenya, Mali, Senegal, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia | African Union Inter-African Bureau for Animal Resources (AU-IBAR)                           | 01-May-13  | 30-Apr-17                                     | \$446,150                |
| STDF/PG/381 | CocoaSafe: SPS capacity building and knowledge sharing for the cocoa sector in South East Asia       | Indonesia, Malaysia, Papua New Guinea                                  | International Cocoa Organization (ICCO)   | 01-Nov-13  | 30-Apr-16<br>(awaiting final project report)  | \$604,491                |

| Ref. No.    | Title   | Beneficiary   | Implementing entity   | Start Date | End Date  | STDF Contribution (US\$) |
|-------------|---|---|---|------------|-----------|--------------------------|
| STDF/PG/401 | Training of Phytosanitary Capacity Evaluation (PCE) Facilitators  | Developing countries  | International Plant Protection Convention (FAO-IPPC)  | 01-Apr-14  | 30-Sep-16 | \$655,436                |
| STDF/PG/432 | Demonstrating the impact on trade and regional plant protection of streamlined information systems for pest surveillance and reporting (Asia/Pacific countries) | Asia Pacific countries  | Australia Department of Agriculture and Water Resources (DAWR)                                | TBD        | TBD       | \$997,595                |
| STDF/PG/436 | Strengthening regional capacity in Latin America to meet pesticides export requirements   | Bolivia, Plurinational State of; Colombia; Costa Rica; Dominican Republic; Ecuador; El Salvador; Guatemala; Honduras; Nicaragua; Panama; Peru | Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA)                                | 01-Oct-13  | 30-Sep-16 | \$346,450                |
| STDF/PG/460 | Implementation of ISPM 15   | Botswana, Cameroon, Kenya, Mozambique   | International Institute of Social Studies (ISS) - Erasmus University of Rotterdam             | 01-Feb-15  | 31-Jan-17 | \$285,159                |
| STDF/PG/486 | Improving food safety and compliance with SPS measures to increase export revenues in the oilseeds value chain in Myanmar                                       | Myanmar   | International Trade Centre (ITC)  | 17-Aug-15  | 16-Aug-18 | \$736,671                |
| STDF/PG/489 | Technical assistance on SPS and the value-chain, to improve market access for small-scale / artisanal fisheries in West Africa                                  | Côte d'Ivoire, Guinea, Mauritania, Senegal  | United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO)                                    | 01-Sep-15  | 31-Aug-17 | \$910,714                |
| STDF/PG/495 | Accreditation of laboratory diagnostic tests for animal diseases in OIRSA member countries  | Belize, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, Panama   | Organismo Internacional Regional de Sanidad Agropecuaria (OIRSA)                              | 01-Mar-16  | 28-Feb-19 | \$793,300                |
| STDF/PG/502 | Regional Strengthening for the Implementation of Phytosanitary Measures and Market Access in COSAVE member countries  | Argentina; Bolivia, Plurinational State of; Brazil; Chile; Paraguay; Peru; Uruguay  | Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA)                                | 01-Nov-15  | 31-Oct-18 | \$985,700                |
| STDF/PG/504 | Global electronic trade facilitation: Enhancing safe trade in plants and plant products through innovation (e-phyto)  | Global  | International Plant Protection Convention (FAO-IPPC)  | TBD        | TBD       | \$1,000,000              |
| STDF/PG/515 | Honey Chain Traceability in Guatemala   | Guatemala   | Directorate for Food Safety - Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Food (MAGA) of Guatemala | 15-Dec-15  | 14-Dec-17 | \$45,400                 |

## PROJECT PREPARATION GRANTS (PPGs)

| Ref. No.     | Title   | Beneficiary         | Implementing entity   | Start Date | End Date      | STDF Contribution (US\$) |
|--------------|---|---------------------|---|------------|---------------|--------------------------|
| STDF/PPG/375 | Development of a project for the establishment of a National SPS Strategy in Togo   | Togo                | Antoine Nguz  | 15-Jun-16  | 15-Dec-16     | \$38,000                 |
| STDF/PPG/379 | Promoting the effective participation of SADC member states in the WTO SPS Committee                                      | SADC member states  | Kevin Walker (consultant)   | 15-Jul-13  | Upon approval | \$25,000                 |
| STDF/PPG/392 | Integrating SPS in Sierra Leone: A whole chain approach to developing the national food safety management system          | Sierra Leone        | Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)                         | 01-Nov-13  | Upon approval | \$39,000                 |
| STDF/PPG/431 | Aflatoxin management in chillies in Pakistan  | Pakistan            | Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)                         | 01-May-15  | Upon approval | \$34,000                 |
| STDF/PPG/435 | Strengthening SPS compliance of sesame production in Sudan for enhanced access to international markets                   | Sudan               | United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO)                            | 01-Jun-15  | Upon approval | \$50,000                 |
| STDF/PPG/447 | Development of a project proposal to address SPS capacity needs focusing on the national food safety system in Tajikistan | Tajikistan          | International Trade Centre (ITC)  | 01-Oct-15  | Upon approval | \$40,600                 |
| STDF/PPG/453 | Building capacity and facilitating enabling mechanisms for harmonizing Aquaculture Certification                          | ASEAN member states | Network of Aquaculture Centres in Asia Pacific (NACA)                                 | 01-Jun-14  | Upon approval | \$48,000                 |
| STDF/PPG/477 | Improving sanitary capacity and facilitating export of livestock and livestock products in Ethiopia                       | Ethiopia            | Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock Development Sector, Veterinary Service Directorate | 11-May-15  | Upon approval | \$37,500                 |
| STDF/PPG/481 | Strengthening the phytosanitary capacity of the horticulture sector in Zambia   | Zambia              | Ruth Frampton (consultant)  | 01-Nov-15  | Upon approval | \$31,380                 |
| STDF/PPG/516 | Cost-Benefit Analysis for Establishing a Foot and Mouth Disease Free Zone or Compartment in Tanzania                      | Tanzania            | TBD   | 07-Sep-16  | 31-Mar-17     | \$50,000                 |
| STDF/PPG/517 | Capacity Building in Indian Spices  | India               | TBD   | TBD        | TBD           | \$35,760                 |

| Ref. No.     | Title   | Beneficiary      | Implementing entity | Start Date | End Date  | STDF Contribution (US\$) |
|--------------|---|------------------|---------------------|------------|-----------|--------------------------|
| STDF/PPG/534 | Preparation for a project proposal to develop traceability and identification of livestock in Mongolia  | Mongolia         | TBD                 | 04-Apr-16  | 31-08-16  | \$49,750                 |
| STDF/PPG/535 | Spillover Effects of Export-Oriented SPS Technical Assistance on the Domestic Food Safety Situation   | Global           | TBD                 | TBD        | TBD       | \$75,000                 |
| STDF/PPG/539 | Development of a project for a biosecurity classification system and registration for SPS Laboratories in Guatemala   | Guatemala        | TBD                 | TBD        | TDB       | \$49,812                 |
| STDF/PPG/550 | Feasibility study for establishment of a fresh meat producing compartment in Zimbabwe   | Zimbabwe         | TBD                 | 16-Sep-16  | 31-Mar-17 | \$48,000                 |
| STDF/PPG/553 | Training of champion coffee and cocoa farmers in Papua New Guinea (PNG) to adopt good agriculture practices (GAP) and to ensure compliance with SPS requirements to enhance trade | Papua New Guinea | TBD                 | TBD        | TBD       | \$30,560                 |