



**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 and requirements and gain and maintain market access. As a leading coordination and knowledge platform in the SPS area, the STDF identifies and disseminates good practice, leverages resources and works on coordinated, coherent solutions. The STDF also provides support and funding for the development and implementation of SPS projects.

1.2. The core founding partners of the STDF are 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), which houses and manages the Facility. Other organizations involved in SPS-related technical cooperation, donors contributing to the STDF trust fund and developing country experts participate actively in the STDF's work. The Secretariats of the Codex Alimentarius Commission and the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC) also participate.

1.3. Delegates who wish to have 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 March 2017**.

**2 DRIVING SPS CAPACITY: NEW STDF BRIEFING NOTES AND RESULTS STORIES**

2.1. As part of its role to share available know-how and SPS-related good practice, the STDF recently published two briefing notes:

- a. The note entitled "Inclusive Trade Solutions: women in SPS capacity building" illustrates how STDF's global partnership is working to build women's capacity on SPS issues through its knowledge hub and grassroots projects.<sup>3</sup> STDF projects are helping women working in agricultural value chains to overcome obstacles by plugging the knowledge gap on SPS issues and accessing domestic and export markets. Examples of STDF's work in this area were presented in a high-level panel session during "International Women's Day at the WTO", held on 8 March 2017.
- b. The note entitled "Partnering with the private sector: delivering SPS outcomes" examines how STDF projects are improving the private sector's capacity to implement SPS measures and take advantage of trade opportunities.<sup>4</sup> A broad spectrum of STDF projects contribute to private sector development, which plays a key role in commercializing agriculture, generating economic growth and creating employment. This

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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/women-sps-capacity>.

<sup>4</sup> See: <http://www.standardsfacility.org/partnering-private-sector>.

note and examples of STDF work featured prominently at the annual conference of the Global Food Safety Initiative (GFSI) from 28 February to 2 March 2017.<sup>5</sup>

2.2. The STDF also prepared and issued a number of project results stories under the title "Driving SPS capacity, delivering results", highlighting the results and impacts of STDF projects on the ground in Africa, Asia and Latin America.<sup>6</sup> More results stories are under preparation and will be disseminated and added to the website in the coming months.

### 3 ELECTRONIC SPS CERTIFICATION

3.1. In June 2016, the STDF organized an information seminar on Electronic SPS Certification (SPS e-cert), on the margins of the SPS Committee meeting. The seminar 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.<sup>7</sup> This STDF work has generated significant interest to date.

3.2. During the Sixth Global Review of Aid for Trade, to be held at the WTO from 11-13 July 2017 under the theme of "Promoting Connectivity", the STDF plans to organize a side-event on SPS E-cert. SPS delegates will have an opportunity to attend this event, as the next SPS Committee meeting will be held that same week. The objective of the STDF event will be to continue the informed dialogue on the implementation of SPS e-cert, identify good practices and consider challenges and opportunities in supporting the smooth transition of developing countries from paper-based to automated SPS controls systems. More information on the Global Aid for Trade Review will become available in the coming weeks on the WTO website. Delegates will also be informed about the STDF side-event through the SPS distribution list.

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

4.1. The STDF and the Enhanced Integrated Framework (EIF) Secretariat<sup>8</sup> have undertaken a joint study that analyses the coverage of SPS issues in EIF Diagnostic Trade Integration Studies (DTIS)<sup>9</sup> and identifies good practice for future studies and their implementation. The study highlights good practice and makes several strategic and practical recommendations to improve the analysis on SPS issues in the DTIS process, enhance capacity to implement SPS-related actions and 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 and OIE) 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>10</sup> The study will be available shortly on the EIF and STDF websites.

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

5.1. 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 100+ SPS delegates on the margins of the SPS Committee in March 2016. To date, the framework has been used to prioritize SPS investment options in a number of 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>11</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

<sup>5</sup> See: <http://www.tcgffoodsafety.com/>.

<sup>6</sup> See: <http://www.standardsfacility.org/stdf-results-series>.

<sup>7</sup> More information on the E-cert seminar, including presentations and a podcast are available at: <http://www.standardsfacility.org/spse-cert>.

<sup>8</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>9</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>10</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>11</sup> Belize, Ethiopia, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, Rwanda, Seychelles, Uganda, Viet Nam and Zambia.

improve national SPS planning and decision-making processes, support project design and leverage additional funding resources.

5.2. The P-IMA user guide, as well as a short briefing note, is available for download on the STDF website.<sup>12</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 STDF Secretariat.

## 6 PROJECT DEVELOPMENT

6.1. 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 and/or the STDF.

6.2. A total of **81 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>13</sup> The STDF Working Group may approve additional PPGs for funding at its next meeting on 20-21 March 2017.

## 7 PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION

7.1. Project grant financing is also 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; and/or (iii) implement collaborative approaches across food safety, animal and plant health and trade.

7.2. 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.

7.3. A total of **76 projects** have been approved for STDF funding since its inception. Information on on-going and completed PGs is available on the STDF website.<sup>14</sup> Depending on financial resources available in the STDF trust fund, the STDF Working Group may approve additional projects and PPGs for funding at its next meeting on 20-21 March 2017.

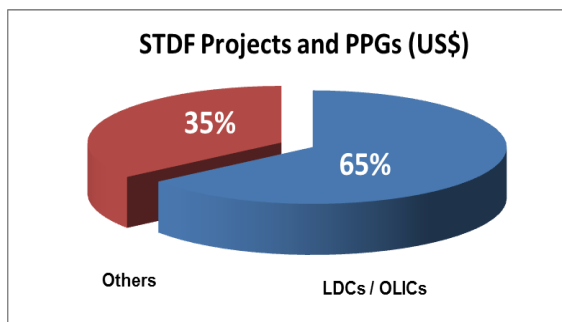
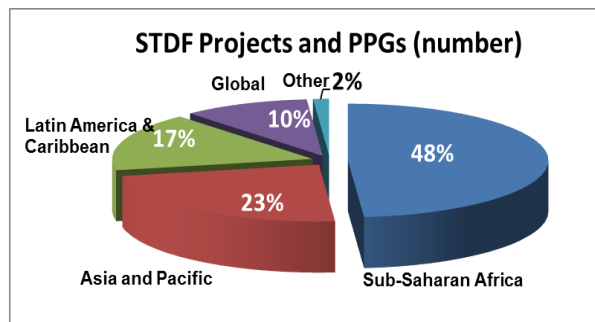
7.4. **Annex 1** provides an overview of on-going STDF projects and PPGs. Since its inception, the STDF has devoted 65% of its project and PPG resources to LDCs and other low income countries (OLICs), as shown below in Figure 1. Hence, the STDF continues meeting its target to devote at least 40% of its 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).

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<sup>12</sup> See: <http://www.standardsfacility.org/p-ima>.

<sup>13</sup> See: <http://www.standardsfacility.org/projectpreparationgrants>.

<sup>14</sup> See: <http://www.standardsfacility.org/projectgrants>.

**Figure 1: STDF projects and PPGs (US\$)****Figure 2: STDF Projects and PPGs (number)**

7.5. Figure 2 above indicates that 48% of the number of STDF projects and PPGs has gone to Sub-Saharan Africa, 23% to Asia, and 17% to Latin America and the Caribbean. In addition, 10% of STDF projects and PPGs are classified as global.

7.6. 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 **4 August 2017**. 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.

## ANNEX 1

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

#### PROJECTS

Ref. No.	Title	Beneficiary	Implementing entity/ person	Start Date	End Date	Budget (US\$)
STDF/PG/242	Strategy to strengthen the SPS system in Comoros	Comoros	United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)	17-Sep-12	31-Dec-17	\$1,033,673
STDF/PG/303	Regional Total Diet Study for Sub-Saharan Africa	Benin, Cameroon, Mali, Nigeria	FAO	1-Apr-14	30-Sep-17	\$1,063,708
STDF/PG/316	Strengthening phytosanitary inspection and diagnostic services in Azerbaijan	Azerbaijan	FAO/IPPC	1-Sep-14	31-Aug-18	\$1,000,000
STDF/PG/345	Regional feed and food security programme	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-18	\$991,100
STDF/PG/346	Breaking barriers, facilitating trade in COMESA member states	COMESA members	Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA)	1-Nov-14	31-Oct-17	\$820,628
STDF/PG/359	Strengthening capacity in Africa to meet pesticide export requirements	Benin, Cameroon, Ghana, Kenya, Mali, Senegal, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia	African Union Inter-African Bureau for Animal Resources (AU-IBAR)	1-May-13	30-Apr-17	\$446,150
STDF/PG/401	Training of Phytosanitary Capacity Evaluation (PCE) Facilitators	Developing countries	IPPC	1-Apr-14	30-Sep-17	\$655,436

Ref. No.	Title	Beneficiary	Implementing entity/ person	Start Date	End Date	Budget (US\$)
STDF/PG/432	Strengthening information systems for pest surveillance and reporting in Asia Pacific	Cambodia, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Thailand, Viet Nam	Australia's Department of Agriculture and Water Resources (DAWR)	1-Dec-16	31-Dec-19	\$897,595
STDF/PG/460	Implementation of ISPM 15	Botswana, Cameroon, Kenya, Mozambique	International Institute of Social Studies - Erasmus University of Rotterdam	1-Feb-15	31-Jul-17	\$278,870
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)	1-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)	1-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)	1-Nov-15	31-Oct-18	\$985,700
STDF/PG/504	ePhyto: Enhancing safe trade in plants and plant products	Developing countries	FAO/IPPC	15-Dec-16	14-Dec-19	\$1,000,000

Ref. No.	Title	Beneficiary	Implementing entity/ person	Start Date	End Date	Budget (US\$)
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
STDF/PG/521	Strengthening the capacity of the National Public Health Laboratory to provide services in support of market access for Solomon Islands fish exporters	Solomon Islands	FAO	TBD	TBD	\$291,634

## PROJECT PREPARATION GRANTS (PPGs)

Ref. No.	Title	Beneficiary	Implementing entity/ person	Start Date	End Date	Budget (US\$)
STDF/PPG/375	Development of a project for the establishment of a National SPS Strategy in Togo	Togo	Consultant (Mr Antoine Nguz)	15-Jun-16	15-Dec-16	\$38,000
STDF/PPG/392	Integrating SPS in Sierra Leone: A whole chain approach to developing the national food safety management system	Sierra Leone	FAO	1-Nov-13	Upon approval	\$39,000
STDF/PPG/431	Aflatoxin management in chillies in Pakistan	Pakistan	FAO	1-May-15	30-Apr-16	\$34,000
STDF/PPG/435	Strengthening SPS compliance of sesame production in Sudan for enhanced access to international markets	Sudan	UNIDO	1-Jun-15	31-Mar-16	\$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	ITC	1-Oct-15	30-Sep-16	\$40,600
STDF/PPG/461	Development of a Sanitary and Phytosanitary Centre of Excellence (SPSCOE) for Pacific Island Countries and Territories (PICTs)	Pacific Island Countries and Territories (PICTs)	Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC) - Land Resources Division (LRD)	TBD	TBD	\$50,000
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	Consultant (Mrs Ruth Frampton)	1-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	Royal Veterinary College, United Kingdom	7-Sep-16	31-Mar-17	\$48,500



Ref. No.	Title	Beneficiary	Implementing entity/ person	Start Date	End Date	Budget (US\$)
STDF/PPG/517	Capacity building and knowledge sharing to combat SPS issues in spices in India	India	Consultant (Mrs Shashi Sareen) and the Spices Board India	19-Dec-16	31-May-17	\$35,680
STDF/PPG/534	Preparation for a project proposal to develop traceability and identification of livestock in Mongolia	Mongolia	Consultant (Mr Hans Schild) and Sustainable Development Consulting, Mongolia	4-Apr-16	31-Aug-16	\$49,750
STDF/PPG/535	Spillover Effects of Export-Oriented SPS Technical Assistance on the Domestic Food Safety Situation	Global	Michigan State University (MSU)	1-Mar-17	1-Mar-18	\$75,000
STDF/PPG/539	Development of a project for a biosecurity classification system and registration for SPS Laboratories in Guatemala	Guatemala	Asociación Guatemalteca de Exportadores (AGEXPORT), Guatemala	TBD	TBD	\$49,812
STDF/PPG/543	Enhancing the capacity of the fruits and Vegetable Sector in Uganda to comply with European Phytosanitary requirements	Uganda	Consultant (Mr Huub Stoetzer)	15-Mar-17	31-Jul-17	\$35,000
STDF/PPG/548	Strengthening the Lao PDR National Sanitary and Phytosanitary Capacity to Support Market Access of Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Produce to the EU and other Potential Markets	Lao People's Democratic Republic	Centre for Agricultural Bioscience International (CABI)	TBD	TBD	\$48,400
STDF/PPG/550	Feasibility study for establishment of a fresh meat producing compartment in Zimbabwe	Zimbabwe	Royal Veterinary College, UK	16-Sep-16	31-Mar-16	\$45,000
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	Consultant (Mr Andrew Graffham)	1-Nov-16	30-Apr-17	\$50,000

Ref. No.	Title	Beneficiary	Implementing entity/ person	Start Date	End Date	Budget (US\$)
STDF/PPG/561	Preparation for a project proposal to increase market access by strengthen the capacity of phytosanitary inspection and diagnostic of the State Service on Phytosanitary Inspection and Plant Quarantine of the Republic of Tajikistan	Tajikistan	FAO	TBD	TBD	\$43,900
STDF/PPG/567	Proposal development on establishment and maintenance of fruit production areas free and under low prevalence of fruit fly pests in Southern Africa	Southern African countries	Directorate of Plant Health, Department of Agriculture Forestry and Fisheries (DAFF), South Africa	TBD	TBD	\$50,000
STDF/PPG/569	Preparation of a project proposal to promote compliance with international SPS requirements in Kyrgyz Republic	Kyrgyz Republic	Association of Food Industry Enterprises (AFIE) of the Kyrgyz Republic	1-Mar-17	30-Sep-17	\$44,790
STDF/PPG/577	Mitigation and Remediation of Cadmium Contamination in Cocoa Beans in Latin America and the Caribbean	Colombia, Ecuador, Peru, Trinidad and Tobago	International Cocoa Organization (ICCO)	15-Mar-17	15-Mar-18	\$61,124