



TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TO DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

SUBMISSION BY THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Addendum

The following communication, dated 29 October 2021, is being circulated at the request of the Delegation of the United States of America.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1. In 1999, the World Trade Organization (WTO), Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures (SPS Committee) initiated a process to gather information on technical assistance that Members have requested, received, or provided in support of the implementation of the SPS Agreement since it came into force on 1 January 1995 (see G/SPS/W/101). In response to this interest, the United States (G/SPS/GEN/181 and addenda) as well as other donors, including inter alia Canada (G/SPS/GEN/1426), the European Union (G/SPS/GEN/1139 and addenda), and Japan (G/SPS/GEN/1160 and addenda), have submitted periodic reporting on technical assistance provided in support of implementation of the SPS Agreement. This submission marks the fourteenth such submission by the United States.

1.2. The compilation of US technical assistance provided to developing countries and newly acceding countries in this report shows the assistance between 1 October 2018 and 30 September 2019. In this report, the United States provides details on technical assistance projects in the fields of food safety, animal health, plant health, and agricultural biotechnology valued at more than USD 40 million. Forms of assistance include regional trade capacity building workshops and conferences, hands-on training programs, fellowships and exchanges, and site visits to US research and academic institutions.

1.3. The United States continues to value the provision of technical assistance to developing countries in support of implementation of the SPS Agreement. US technical assistance programs assist developing countries, least developing countries, and newly acceding countries in developing and implementing effective, transparent, and science-based regulatory systems to protect human, animal, and plant health while facilitating trade in agricultural products. These programs seek to foster a clear understanding of key SPS provisions in international and bilateral trade agreements. The United States continues to develop and implement demand-driven assistance in a framework of mutual respect and accountability which, in our experience, provides the strongest framework for delivering enduring results.

1.4. The US Department of Agriculture (USDA) implements many of these technical assistance activities in partnership with other US Government agencies, international organizations, US universities, agri-businesses, and private consultants. This report includes a list of the key US Government agencies involved in the provision of technical assistance to developing countries, least developing countries, and newly acceding countries, as well as a list of representative activities conducted in the specified reporting period. The lists are not exhaustive.

2 KEY US AGENCIES INVOLVED IN PROVIDING TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

2.1. **Animal Plant and Health Inspection Service (APHIS)** – APHIS is a lead US government agency in international SPS standard setting activities in the areas of animal health and plant health. APHIS' international technical and regulatory capacity building activities are conducted on the basis of requests from other countries or from US Government agencies involved in international technical assistance. APHIS has staff positioned globally in 46 overseas offices assisting in both import and export issues. APHIS partners with international agricultural organizations, such as the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE), the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC), the Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations (FAO), and the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation in Agriculture (IICA) to achieve and advance science-based SPS objectives globally.

2.2. **Commercial Law Development Program (CLDP)** – CLDP is a division of the US Department of Commerce that helps achieve US foreign policy goals in developing and post-conflict countries through commercial legal reforms. Partnering with the federal judiciary, other US Government agencies, and international organizations, CLDP designs and implements conferences and workshops, utilizes long and short-term advisors, and trains foreign delegations in the United States and other countries to improve commercial legal frameworks. These frameworks strengthen standards, food safety, and animal and plant health agencies; utilize international best practices to reduce impediments to trade; increase transparency regarding specific SPS concerns; and develop early notification systems for emerging impediments to bilateral and regional trade.

2.3. **Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)** – EPA works closely with the USDA Foreign Agricultural Service and other US agencies to provide scientific and policy expertise for the establishment of standards and requirements regarding sound pesticide and chemical management practices based on science. EPA, considered one of the world's leading authorities on the regulation of pesticides, has worked extensively with other countries both bilaterally and through international fora to promote harmonized maximum residue limits.

2.4. **Food and Drug Administration (FDA)** – FDA is the agency within the Department of Health and Human Services responsible for protecting the public health by assuring the safety, efficacy, and security of domestically produced and imported foods, as well as human and veterinary drugs, food additives, and supplements. FDA maintains an international presence and works with many other US agencies to provide public health and food safety technical expertise to our trading partners.

2.5. **Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS)** – FSIS is the USDA's public health agency, responsible for ensuring that the nation's commercial supply of meat, poultry, and egg products is safe, wholesome, and correctly labeled and packaged. FSIS has significant expertise in helping foreign governments understand the regulatory system of the United States.

2.6. **Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS)** – FAS has the primary responsibility for coordinating and implementing USDA's international trade policy, promotion, and capacity building activities. FAS provides technical assistance through fellowships and scientific exchange programmes, such as the Cochran and Borlaug fellowship programmes, as well as through the dispatch of USDA advisors and experts from other US food regulatory agencies to assist foreign policymakers, regulators, scientists, and the private sector to address complex, trade-related issues such as SPS compliance and applications of agricultural biotechnology.

2.7. **US Agency for International Development (USAID)** – USAID is the lead US government agency delivering development assistance worldwide. USAID provides assistance to support country, regional, and global strategies that facilitate trade and strengthen SPS systems. Technical assistance builds the capacity needed to support policy and systems change, enabling implementation of the WTO SPS Agreement and adherence to regional and international SPS standards.

**ILLUSTRATIVE DESCRIPTION OF TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROVIDED BY THE UNITED STATES
TO DEVELOPING COUNTRIES AND NEWLY ACCEDING COUNTRIES
BETWEEN 1 OCTOBER 2018 AND 30 SEPTEMBER 2019**

Sector	Description of program or activity	Form of assistance	Implementing Subagency	Provided to
Animal Health	Global Health Security Agenda meeting	Meeting	Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS)	Global
Animal Health	APHIS/Wildlife Services support to Feral Swine Field Studies	Advice, Meeting, Subject Matter Expert, Technical Assistance	Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS)	Mexico
Animal Health	The Annual Meeting of the Zoonosis Program	Meeting	Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS)	Mexico
Animal Health	Mexican National Technical Council for Animal Health (CONASA) meeting	Advice, Meeting, Subject Matter Expert	Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS)	Mexico
Plant Health	European Grapevine Moth (EGM) Eradication Program Site Visit to California	Advice, Subject Matter Expert	Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS)	Argentina
Plant Health	Hot water treatment (HWT) of mangoes and loading of grapes for in-transit cold treatment.	Subject Matter Expert	Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS)	Peru
Animal Health	International Meeting of Wild Boar and Feral Swine Surveillance	Advice, Subject Matter Expert	Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS)	Brazil, Mexico, Paraguay, Uruguay
Animal Health	African Swine Fever for first responders training and evaluation	Subject Matter Expert, Training	Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS)	Viet Nam
Plant Health	Pest identification training for plant health officials	Training	Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS)	Dominican Republic
Animal Health	Rabies In The Americas (RITA) Conference	Meeting	Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS)	Mexico
Plant Health	North American Plant Protection Organization (NAPPO) Workshop ISPM 38 International Movement of Seeds	Training, Subject Matter Expert	Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS)	Argentina; Bolivia, Plurinational State of; Costa Rica; Guatemala; Honduras
Plant Health	Asparagus insect sampling training	Training	Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS)	Peru
Plant Health	The Annual Regional Partnership and Steering Committee Meeting for regional partners that interact in Plant Health Safeguarding activities for the Greater Caribbean Region.	Meeting	Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS)	Caribbean
Plant Health	Pest Diagnostics Capacity Building Initiative to support safeguarding the Caribbean from threats and /or the impacts of introduction and spread of Tephritid fruit flies through investigation/ research and the provision of advice and training on all matters related to Tephritid fruit flies.	Advice, Training	Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS)	Bahamas, Dominica, Grenada, Guyana, Jamaica, Trinidad and Tobago

Sector	Description of program or activity	Form of assistance	Implementing Subagency	Provided to
Animal Health	Poultry Disease Regionalization Workshop	Training	Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS)	India
Plant Health	Annual Biosecurity Workshop for Micronesia, Palau and Marshall Islands	Training	Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS)	Micronesia, Marshall Islands
Animal Health, Plant Health	Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA) Agreement Technical Assistance to support several micro project initiatives to support the Ministry of Agriculture	Technical Assistance	Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS)	Bolivia, Plurinational State of
Animal Health	Development and Management of Surveillance Standard Operating Procedures training for Avian Influenza	Training	Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS)	Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Congo, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Equatorial Guinea, Gabon, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal
Plant Health	Regional International Symposium on Biocontrol and Integrated Pest Management (IPM) for Crop Protection	Meeting, Subject Matter Experts, Training	Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS)	Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Singapore, South Korea, Chinese Taipei, Thailand, Viet Nam
Plant Health	Central Africa Regional National Plant Protection Organizations (NPPO) and Partners Taskforce meeting	Meeting	Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS)	Cameroon, Central African Republic, Congo, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Equatorial Guinea, Gabon, Sao Tomé and Principe
Animal Health	Avian Influenza Good Emergency Management Practices (GEMP) Development Workshop	Training	Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS)	Ecuador
Animal Health	Regional Simulation Exercise of Avian Influenza	Training	Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS)	Bolivia, Plurinational State of; Brazil; Chile; Paraguay; Uruguay
Plant Health	Risk-based Sampling Workshop	Training	Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS)	Guyana, Jamaica, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago
Animal Health	Wildlife Disease Monitoring and Management Course	Training	Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS)	India, Indonesia, Mexico, Myanmar, Nepal, Chinese Taipei, Thailand, Uganda, Viet Nam

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Animal Health	Poultry Disease Outbreak Management and Regionalization Course	Training	Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS)	Jordan, Kazakhstan, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan
Animal Health	Emergency Poultry Disease Response Course	Training	Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS)	Afghanistan, Argentina, Botswana, Brazil, Belize, Dominican Republic, The Gambia, Haiti, India, Indonesia, Namibia, Panama, South Africa, Thailand, Trinidad and Tobago, Uruguay, Viet Nam
Animal Health	African Swine Fever (ASF) training	Training	Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS)	Viet Nam
Animal Health, Plant Health, Food Safety	Central Asia: Regional Expert Level Working Groups on Customs, Standards/Technical Barriers to Trade, Sanitary/Phytosanitary Measures, Intellectual Property Rights, and Women's Economic Empowerment	Advice, Training	Department of Commerce	Central Asia Region
Animal Health, Plant Health, Food Safety	Commercial Law Development Program (CLDP) led SPS workshops with an aim to create a transparent and reliable environment for international transactions and promote economic development through trade.	Advice, Training	Department of Commerce	Georgia
Animal Health, Plant Health, Food Safety	The Food Safety Network program is intended to strengthen impact, leverage resources, and improve coordination of capacity building for food safety, animal health, and plant health.	Advice, Subject Matter Expert, Training	Food and Drug Administration (FDA), Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS), US Agency for International Development (USAID)	Global
Food Safety	Support to the UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) to support international compliance with the Food and Drug Administration's Food Safety Modernization Act (FSMA) and its International Food Safety Capacity Building Plan, which emphasizes the concept of preventing food safety-related problems before they occur.	Training	Food and Drug Administration (FDA)	Global
Food Safety	JIFSAN's International Food Safety Training program conducts Train-the-Trainer food safety courses in other countries.	Training	Food and Drug Administration (FDA)	Global
Food Safety	Support to the World Health Organization (WHO) to promote the rapid exchange of information during food safety-related events.	Training	Food and Drug Administration (FDA)	Global
Food Safety	USDA FSIS Public Health Information System (PHIS) Technical Discussions	Training	Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS)	China

Sector	Description of program or activity	Form of assistance	Implementing Subagency	Provided to
Food Safety	Technical Outreach with SENASICA to support the equivalence of its food safety inspection system governing meat and poultry products.	Training	Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS)	Mexico
Food Safety	Food Safety and Inspection Seminar for Central and South American Countries Seeking Initial or Reinstatement Equivalence Determinations by USDA FSIS to Export to the United States Meat, Poultry, or Eggs.	Training	Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS)	Central and South America
Food Safety	International Meat, Poultry, and Processed Egg Products Inspection Seminar on USDA FSIS policies and the equivalence process.	Training	Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS)	Central and South America
Food Safety	Food Safety and Inspection Seminar for International Government Officials on USDA FSIS policies and issues to consider when exporting to or importing from the United States meat, poultry, and egg products.	Training	Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS)	Global
Food Safety	Comecarne Border Seminars on USDA FSIS inspection, export certification procedures.	Training	Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS)	Mexico
Animal Health, Plant Health, Food Safety	Part of the Global Food Security Program (GFSP), and the Feed the Future (FTF), the Initiative to End Hunger in Africa (IEHA), and the African Growth Opportunity Act (AGOA). The Sub-Saharan Africa Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) program includes capacity building in plant health, animal health, and food safety systems. The objective is to harmonize SPS regulations with international standards to enhance food security and increase export opportunities for horticultural, animal, and processed food products through scientific and regulatory capacity building.	Advice, Training	Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS)	Sub-Saharan Africa Region
Animal Health, Plant Health, Food Safety	Engagement with Georgia on the adoption of science-based, trade-facilitating SPS regulations.	Advice, Subject Matter Expert, Training	Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS)	Georgia
Animal Health, Plant Health, Food Safety	The Food for Progress Program helps developing countries and emerging democracies modernize and strengthen their agricultural sectors. US agricultural commodities donated to recipient countries are sold on the local market and the proceeds are used to support agricultural, economic or infrastructure development programs. Food for Progress has two principal objectives: to improve agricultural productivity and to expand trade of agricultural products.	Technical Assistance	Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS)	Philippines; Sub-Saharan Africa Region
Plant Health	Engagement with Cambodia on the adoption of science-based, trade-facilitating SPS regulations.	Advice, Training	Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS)	Cambodia
Plant Health, Food Safety	Engagement with Bangladesh on the adoption of science-based, trade-facilitating SPS regulations.	Training	Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS)	Bangladesh

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Food Safety	Modify and implement a national action plan for mitigation and remediation of cadmium toxicity in chocolate and cacao products	Advice, Training	Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS)	Peru
Animal Health, Plant Health, Food Safety	Contributions to the Standards and Trade Development Facility (STDF) support a variety of SPS activities worldwide.	Technical Assistance	Food and Drug Administration (FDA); Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS)	Global
Animal Health, Plant Health, Food Safety	Engagement with Ukraine on the adoption of science-based, trade-facilitating SPS regulations.	Advice, Subject Matter Expert, Training	Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS)	Ukraine
Animal Health, Plant Health, Food Safety	Program to help increase Pakistan's agricultural productivity and reduce the spread of animal and plant diseases by building capacities through research and adoption of new agricultural practices and technologies	Advice, Subject Matter Expert, Training	Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS)	Pakistan
Animal Health	The Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA) facilitated a meeting to discuss OIE Code Chapters of interest to Animal Health Delegates from the Americas.	Meeting	Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS)	Central America Region
Plant Health, Food Safety	Engagement on trade-related technical regulations to support bilateral and regional adoption of science-based, trade-facilitating regulations and practices.	Advice, Training	Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS)	South America Region
Animal Health, Plant Health, Food Safety	Scientific Cooperation Research Program supports joint research, education, and extension projects between US and international agricultural professionals.	Advice, Subject Matter Expert, Training	Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS)	Global
Animal Health, Plant Health, Food Safety	The Cochran Fellowships Program supports short-term, US-based training opportunities to agricultural professionals from developing and middle-income countries.	Advice, Subject Matter Expert, Training	Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS)	Global
Animal Health, Plant Health, Food Safety	The Scientific Exchanges Program supports scientific training, collaborative research and mentoring between US scientists and international agricultural professionals.	Advice, Subject Matter Expert, Training	Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS)	Global
Food Safety	The Producers to Market Alliance (PMA) program seeks to improve the capacity of rural producers to respond to the market requirements in selected conflict-affected areas where success is key to advancing Colombia's peace.	Technical Assistance	US Agency for International Development (USAID)	Colombia
Food Safety	The Environment Peace Initiative for Colombia (EPIC) is USAID's pledge to support the Government of Colombia (GOC) in its Visin Amazona 2020 strategy to halt deforestation in the Amazon region. EPIC's efforts are centered in the establishment of sustainable productive systems and other licit economic alternatives to improve livelihoods and enhance biodiversity conservation through the development of a landscape with enriched productive systems connecting with natural forest.	Technical Assistance	US Agency for International Development (USAID)	Colombia

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Food Safety	The Lebanon Investment in Quality program aims to increase the competitiveness of selected agro-food subsectors	Technical Assistance	US Agency for International Development (USAID)	Lebanese Republic
Animal Health, Plant Health, Food Safety	Avansa Agrikultura, in addition to improving the country's horticulture value chain with farm inputs, agricultural extension services, storage, adaptation to climate change, transportation, trade, and agriculture policy, it also assists the GoTL in meeting ASEAN food safety and sanitary/phytosanitary requirements (SPS) through technical assistance.	Technical Assistance	US Agency for International Development (USAID)	Timor-Leste
Plant Health, Food Safety	Speakers on topics related to the food and feed safety and adoption of GE products and biotechnology regulation. Participants were from Azerbaijan's Food Safety Institute, Food Safety Agency, Ministry of Agriculture, Academy of Sciences, and Khazar University.	Subject Matter Expert, Training	US Department of State	Azerbaijan
Plant Health, Food Safety	Second National Seeds Congress to bring together MINAGRI, seed producers, exporters, advisors, and academics for a robust discussion of new agricultural biotechnologies.	Subject Matter Expert, Training	US Department of State	Chile
Plant Health, Food Safety	Work with local agricultural biotechnology industry associations, policymakers, and academics to support science-based evaluation of new products.	Subject Matter Expert, Technical Assistance	US Department of State	Colombia
Plant Health	Engagement between plant geneticist and Croatian scientists, agricultural students to advance science-based approach to biotechnology.	Subject Matter Expert	US Department of State	Croatia
Plant Health, Food Safety	Biosafety capacity development, funded in partnership with the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation.	Technical Assistance, Training	US Department of State	Ethiopia
Plant Health, Food Safety	Forum for Ghanaian crop farmers to learn from other farmers about biotechnology products (including GE seed) and discuss expectations/concerns with Ghanaian research scientists; training on advanced agricultural technology, biosafety, and regulatory approaches.	Subject Matter Expert, Training	US Department of State	Ghana
Plant Health, Food Safety	Lectures on bio-safety as well as the social and economic impacts of agricultural biotechnology.	Subject Matter Expert, Training	US Department of State	Indonesia
Plant Health, Food Safety	To expose the greater agricultural sector in Southern Africa to new developments in precision biotechnology innovation, such as genome editing, to gain wider acceptance among scientists and inform policy makers as to the end-products derived from these methods.	Subject Matter Expert, Training	US Department of State	South Africa
Plant Health, Food Safety	Seminar on Biotechnology- LLP and Trade with the cooperation of a local agricultural association	Subject Matter Expert	US Department of State	Turkey

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Plant Health, Food Safety	Internationally-renowned biotechnology experts met with parliamentary committee members, regulatory officials, farmer association leaders, biotechnology advocates, and private sector representatives, to share their research and personal experiences, and lead discussions on possible next steps in Uganda's journey toward the legalization of biotechnology.	Subject Matter Expert	US Department of State	Uganda
Animal Health, Plant Health, Food Safety	Embassy Science Fellowship (ESF) on sanitary and phytosanitary standards; Modern Problems of Genetics, Genomics, and Biotechnology conference with representatives from the Academy of Sciences, the Ministry of Agriculture, the Ministry of Health, the Ministry of Higher Education, the Ministry of Innovation Development, and professors of higher education.	Training	US Department of State	Uzbekistan
