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Page: 1/5

Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures

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**TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TO DEVELOPING COUNTRIES  
PROVIDED BY AUSTRALIA  
JULY 2015 – JUNE 2017**

COMMUNICATION FROM AUSTRALIA

*Addendum*

The following communication, received on 16 September 2019, is being circulated at the request of the Delegation of Australia.

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1. In response to the Secretariat's request in G/SPS/W/101, Australia submits the attached list of technical assistance provided to developing countries between 1 July 2015 and 30 June 2017, in accordance with Article 9 of the Agreement on the Application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures (SPS Agreement). The list is not an exhaustive compilation of all technical assistance provided.

2. The aggregate value of the official development technical assistance provided between July 2015 and June 2017, as listed in the appended table, exceeded AUD \$46 million. In many cases Australia also provides substantial additional in-kind contributions.

3. Technical assistance is primarily aimed at helping developing countries to adjust to, and comply with, SPS measures in their export markets and to improve their capacity in developing and implementing their own SPS measures based on science and international standards. For the reporting period assistance was provided through 78 projects and given to a total of 58 individual Members, Observers or non-Member countries, mainly in the Asia-Pacific region, but also in Africa and the Middle East. Assistance was directed to individual countries as well as to groups of countries or regional organisations such as Pacific Island Forum countries, Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) forum and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN).

**TABLE 1: TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROVIDED BY AUSTRALIA TO MEMBERS,  
OBSERVERS AND OTHER COUNTRIES: 1 JULY 2015 – 30 JUNE 2017**

Sector	Description of program	Form of assistance	Provided to
Plant health	Determine water use efficiency and profitability of Sub Surface Drip Irrigation (SSDI) lucerne hay compared to flood irrigation. Determine minimum energy requirements for SSDI. Develop scheduling techniques and tools for highly efficient irrigation systems.	Technical expertise	Cambodia, Lao People's Democratic Republic
Animal health	To improve cattle and sheep production in Tibet, People's Republic of China and Australia by introducing new forage species to improve year-round nutrition. To improve the livelihoods of smallholder farmers in Tibet Autonomous Region, PRC.	Advice, technical expertise, training	China
Food safety	A five-day workshop on designing a national monitoring and surveillance program, with a tailored statistical workshop with focus and emphasis on statistical design and factors to consider in planning and analysing the results of a national monitoring program.	Training, advice, technical expertise	Saudi Arabia, Kingdom of
Animal health	A range of technical and policy capacity building to build relationships and improve animal health surveillance while benefitting Australia by reducing offshore animal disease risks.	Advice, technical expertise, training, equipment	Papua New Guinea, Timor-Leste
Food safety and plant protection	Australian Fumigation Accreditation Scheme (AFAS) is a bilaterally based management system that includes regulator and industry training, establishment of in country training teams, annual joint system reviews and border monitoring and feedback. The principles of this management system are adaptable to any biosecurity treatment or inspection activity.	Advice, technical expertise, training	Chile, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Fiji, Guatemala, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Viet Nam
Plant protection	Agricultural productivity initiative to support the strengthening of the Solomon Islands Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock's cocoa extension systems.	Research, technical assistance	Solomon Islands
Plant protection	Area-wide management of pest fruit flies in an Indonesian mango production system.	Research, technical assistance	Indonesia
Plant Protection	This program will deliver workshops aimed to strengthen regional surveillance systems and management capabilities, supporting the implementation of international and regional surveillance standards (ISPM 4, ISPM 6, ISPM 26 and RSPM No.3). This strengthens the management of regional plant pest risks, supports members plant pest status, enhances pest risk analysis and facilitates information sharing amongst the APPPC member countries.	Training, workshops	Asia and Pacific countries in the APPPC
Plant protection - forestry	Biological control of galling insect pests of eucalypt plantations in the Mekong region.	Research, technical assistance	Cambodia, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Thailand, Viet Nam
Plant protection - horticulture	Bogia coconut syndrome in Papua New Guinea: developing biological knowledge and a risk management strategy.	Research, technical assistance	Papua New Guinea

Sector	Description of program	Form of assistance	Provided to
Plant protection	Building a resilient mango industry in Cambodia and Australia through improved production and supply chain practices.	Research, technical assistance	Cambodia
Plant protection	Develop and implement a regionally harmonised, pest information framework that promotes best practice in the design and implementation of pest surveillance, in particular, information management and reporting.	Technical expertise, training, equipment	Cambodia, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Thailand, Viet Nam
Plant protection	Develop within the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) Member Countries technical understanding of in-transit, cool chain treatments and regulatory confidence in this kind of supply chain to meet phytosanitary requirements of high-value, SPS-sensitive, export markets.	Technical expertise	Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Viet Nam
Plant protection	Developing a foundation for the long-term management of basal stem rot of oil palm in Papua New Guinea and the Solomon Islands.	Research, technical assistance	Solomon Islands
Plant protection - agribusiness	Developing an emergency response and long term management strategy for Cassava Mosaic Virus in Cambodia and Viet Nam.	Research, technical assistance	Cambodia, Viet Nam
Plant protection	Developing and verifying quarantine management strategies for Panama disease.	technical expertise training advice	Philippines
Plant protection - horticulture	Developing cleaner export pathways for Pacific agriculture commodities.	Research, technical assistance	Fiji, Samoa
Animal health	Development of a market-driven bio secure beef production system in Lao People's Democratic Republic.	Research, technical assistance	Lao People's Democratic Republic
Animal health	Domestic and international market development for high-value cattle and beef in South-East Cambodia.	Research, technical assistance	Cambodia
Plant protection - horticulture	Enabling improved plant biosecurity practices in Cambodia, Lao People's Democratic Republic and Thailand.	Research, technical assistance	Cambodia, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Thailand
Plant protection	Enhance the capacity of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) Member Countries to identify plant pests and diseases; promote regional networking of this capacity; and stimulate adoption of new, diagnostic techniques.	Technical expertise, training, equipment	Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Viet Nam
Animal health	Enhancing transboundary livestock disease risk management in Lao People's Democratic Republic.	Research, technical assistance	Lao People's Democratic Republic
Plant protection	Establishing the International Mungbean Improvement Network.	Research, technical assistance	Bangladesh, India, Myanmar
Plant protection	Evaluation of fruit fly populations surrounding an area-wide management zone.	Research, technical assistance	Indonesia
Plant protection	Evaluation of prospects for biocontrol of invasive weeds in the Pacific.	Research, technical assistance	Fiji, Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands, Vanuatu
Animal health	Forage options for smallholder livestock in water-scarce environments of Afghanistan.	Research, technical assistance	Afghanistan
Animal health	Government Partnerships for Development Program (GPDF) Round One. The Village Poultry Health and Biosecurity program aims to improve poultry production in several pilot villages and strengthen biosecurity arrangements in Timor-Leste.	Advice, technical expertise, training, equipment	Timor-Leste

Sector	Description of program	Form of assistance	Provided to
Animal health Plant health	Identify and evaluate opportunities for integrated crop-livestock systems in north west Cambodia and assess options for adaptation to climate variability and change for farming systems in central west and north west NSW.	Advice, technical expertise, training	Cambodia
Plant Protection Plant protection	Identifying and managing Bacterial Crown Rot in Papaya. Identifying appropriate strategies for reducing virus and weevil losses in sweet potato production systems in Papua New Guinea.	technical expertise, training Research, technical assistance	Philippines Papua New Guinea
Plant protection	Improve the management of biosecurity treatment systems by developing and implementing sustainable and appropriate biosecurity methodologies, systems and training programs. A key outcome of the program is to develop audit and compliance monitoring capabilities, in collaboration with partner biosecurity agencies, to meet agreed minimum standards for the application of quarantine pre-shipment treatments.	Advice, technical expertise, training	Cambodia, Fiji, India, Indonesia, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Viet Nam
Animal health Animal health	Improving dairy cattle health and production in Viet Nam. Improving fish health management and production protocols in marine finfish aquaculture in Indonesia and Australia.	Research, technical assistance Research, technical assistance	Viet Nam Indonesia
Plant protection	Improving income and nutrition in eastern and southern Africa by enhancing vegetable-based farming and food systems in peri-urban corridors.	Research, technical assistance	Ethiopia, Malawi, Mozambique, Tanzania
Animal health	Improving livelihoods of small-scale livestock producers in the central dry zone through research on animal production and health in Myanmar.	Research, technical assistance	Myanmar
Animal health	Improving the production and competitiveness of Australian and Philippines pig production through better health and disease control.	Research, technical assistance	Philippines
Animal health Plant protection - crop improvement	IndoBeef strategic framework and cross-cutting themes. Insect tolerant chickpeas for Bangladesh.	Research, technical assistance Research, technical assistance	Indonesia Bangladesh
Animal health Plant protection	Integrated agriculture/agribusiness education and training pathway. The Muresk Institute Pathway program brokers agricultural training with a range of education and training providers. It also provides an industry driven suite of short courses aligned to contemporary practices in agriculture with a focus on technology adoption, biosecurity, animal welfare and innovative business practices.	Training	China
Plant protection	Integrated crop management practices to enhance value chain outcomes for the mango industry in Pakistan and Australia - Phase 2.	Research, technical assistance	Pakistan
Plant protection	Integrated crop management to enhance vegetable profitability and food security in the southern Philippines.	Research, technical assistance	Philippines
Plant protection	Integrated disease management of sugarcane streak mosaic in Indonesia.	Research, technical assistance	Indonesia

Sector	Description of program	Form of assistance	Provided to
Plant protection - horticulture	Integrated disease management strategies for the productive, profitable and sustainable production of high quality papaya fruit in the southern Philippines.	Research, technical assistance	Philippines
Plant protection - horticulture	Integrated management of Fusarium wilt of bananas in the Philippines.	Research, technical assistance	Philippines
Plant protection	Life history, identity and damage assessment of Galip weevil.	Research, technical assistance	Papua New Guinea
Plant protection	Management strategies for Acacia plantation diseases in Indonesia and Viet Nam.	Research, technical assistance	Indonesia, Viet Nam
Plant protection	Mango value chain improvement.	Research, technical assistance	Pakistan
Plant protection - crop improvement	Mitigating the effects of stripe rust on wheat production in South Asia and eastern Africa.	Research, technical assistance	Ethiopia, India, Nepal, Pakistan
Plant protection	Pacific Regional Agricultural Market Access Program (PRAMA). The program provides a mechanism to assist with facilitating export market opportunities for horticultural and other agricultural commodities. It assists Pacific Island countries to meet import quarantine requirements of key trading partners to facilitate improved rural livelihoods through functioning markets.	Grants, training	Cook Islands, Fiji, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Nauru, Niue, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu, Vanuatu
Plant protection	Promote awareness of Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) issues among plant health officials, including understanding of the linkages between plant health and trade, and introduce concepts relating to surveillance, diagnostics, information management, risk analysis and risk management.	Technical expertise, training	Bangladesh
Plant protection - crop improvement	Protecting stored grains against pests.	Research, technical assistance	Timor-Leste, Tanzania
Animal health - livestock production systems	Reducing disease risks and improving food safety in smallholder pig value chains in Viet Nam.	Research, technical assistance	Viet Nam
Plant protection	Strategies for using floriculture to improve livelihoods in indigenous Australian and Pacific island communities.	Research, technical assistance	Fiji, Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands
Plant protection	Strengthening integrated crop management research in the Pacific islands in support of sustainable intensification of high-value crop production.	Research, technical assistance	Fiji, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga
Plant protection	Sustainable wheat and maize production in Afghanistan.	Research, technical assistance	Afghanistan
Plant protection	The Agricultural Productivity initiative supports the strengthening of the Solomon Islands Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock's (MAL) Cocoa Extensions Systems.	Technical assistance	Solomon Islands
Animal health	The goal of the program is to enhance Indonesia's human and animal disease prevention and response capacities to increase national, Australian and global biosecurity. This will be achieved by the following high level program outcomes: (1) Strengthened Indonesian government systems for integrated preparedness and rapid response to animal health and public health emergencies; (2) Strengthened Indonesian government animal health information system and public health surveillance systems, and	Advice, technical expertise, training	Indonesia

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Plant protection	the effective use of information; and (3) Enhanced institutional and individual performance in leadership, management and evidence-based decision-making. The Australia-Africa Plant Biosecurity Partnership (AAPBP) is a plant biosecurity capacity development program using Australian expertise to strengthen biosecurity skills and planning in Africa. This will support increased production, market access for African farmers and improved food security.	Advice, training, technical assistance	Burundi, Ethiopia, Kenya, Malawi, Mozambique, Rwanda, Uganda, Tanzania, Zambia, Zimbabwe
Plant protection	The enhancement of citrus value chains production in Pakistan through improved orchard management practices.	Research, technical assistance	Pakistan
Plant protection	The International Plant Health Surveillance Program conducts offshore plant health surveillance and capacity development activities with near neighbour biosecurity counterparts in Timor-Leste and Papua New Guinea. The program delivers an annual program of field surveillance and scientific training (laboratory, diagnostics) activities with biosecurity counterparts to enhance pest early warning, build regional capacity and strengthen biosecurity capacity in Australia's northern neighbours.	Advice, technical expertise, training, equipment	Papua New Guinea, Timor-Leste
Animal and plant health	The Pacific Horticulture and Agricultural Market Access (PHAMA) Program Phase Two provides a mechanism to assist with facilitating export market opportunities for horticultural and other agricultural commodities.	Technical assistance	Fiji, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Vanuatu
Plant protection	The Quarantine Regulators Meeting (QRM) provides a forum for engagement with overseas biosecurity agencies on collaborative border management, with particular regard to the management and safe movement of cargo in trade.	Advice, technical expertise	Cambodia, Chile, India, Indonesia, Republic of Korea, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, Myanmar, New Zealand, OIRSA (Central American regional biosecurity organisation representing Belize, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua and Panama), Peru, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Solomon Islands, Sri Lanka, Chinese Taipei, Viet Nam
Plant protection	The Solomon Biosecurity Development Program (Phase One and Phase Two), has provided technical training and capacity development to the Solomon Islands Ministry of Agriculture and Biosecurity Authority (Biosecurity Solomon Islands) through the provision of biosecurity border operations, scientific, strategy and governance capacity development activities.	Advice, technical expertise, training, equipment	Solomon Islands
Animal and plant health and food safety	The Standards and Trade Development Facility seeks to increase the capacity of developing countries to implement international sanitary and phytosanitary (SPS) standards to gain and maintain international agricultural market access.	Technical assistance	Multiple

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Animal health	The Village Poultry Health and Biosecurity (VPHB) Program is funded by the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. The VPHB Program aims to improve food availability by controlling diseases, through vaccination for Newcastle disease, and improve poultry management techniques in three pilot villages, and strengthening biosecurity arrangement to prevent incursions of serious poultry diseases in Timor-Leste.	Advice, technical expertise, training, equipment	Timor-Leste
Plant health	To assist dryland farmers in Indonesia and New South Wales to increase the water and nitrogen use efficiency of dryland agriculture systems.	Advice, technical expertise, training	Indonesia (Banda Aceh)
Animal health	To assist farming communities and management authorities to adapt irrigation structures in ways that protect fisheries.	Advice, technical expertise, training	Lao People's Democratic Republic
Animal Health	To enhance mitigation of animal health risks to northern Australia through improving our knowledge of the animal health status of our northern neighbours, determining the animal health status of Australia's Indian Ocean territories and building capacity in our northern neighbours to detect, identify and manage animal health risks.	Advice, technical expertise, training, equipment	Indian Ocean territories, Papua New Guinea, Timor-Leste
Animal health, plant health and food safety	To identify best practice policy settings for capturing low cost mitigation opportunities in developing and developed economies. Although the focus of research is India, the project seeks to inform the appropriate design of offset markets in Australia and is highly relevant to the future growth and productivity of New South Wales (NSW) primary industries as well as the availability low cost carbon offsets to the NSW energy sector.	Advice, technical expertise	India
Plant health	To improve vegetable industry profitability by improving adoption of integrated crop management practices and finding science based solutions to crop management problems.	Technical expertise, training	Philippines
Animal health	To increase hatchery-based bivalve production in Viet Nam and New South Wales to expand opportunities for coastal communities to rear bivalve molluscs.	Advice, technical expertise and training	Viet Nam
Plant health	To manage all aspects of the introduction, documentation, quarantine and distribution of designated CIMMYT/ICARDA/ICRISAT bread wheat, durum wheat, faba bean, lentil, chickpea, barley and field pea germplasm.	Technical expertise	India, Mexico, Syria
Plant health	To more effectively manage fruitspotting bug and reduce reliance on pesticides in subtropical fruit and nut crops using biological controls, improve reliability of mango cropping in Australia and improve the livelihoods of Cambodian mango farmers.	Advice, technical expertise, training	Cambodia
Plant protection, food safety	To promote understanding and confidence in the use of ionizing radiation (irradiation) as a phytosanitary treatment.	Technical expertise, training	Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, India, Indonesia, Republic of Korea, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Chinese Taipei, Thailand, Viet Nam

Sector	Description of program	Form of assistance	Provided to
Animal health and food safety	To provide sound evidence for livestock and grassland management options to help guide the Chinese Research and Development agencies on how to alleviate poverty and reduce further environmental damage on degraded grasslands by improving household incomes from livestock production while reducing grazing pressures.	Advice, technical expertise, training	China
Animal health	Village-based biosecurity for livestock disease risk management in Cambodia.	Research, technical assistance	Cambodia