

**Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures**

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

Note by the Secretariat<sup>1</sup>

**Overview**

1. A new medium term strategy for the Standards and Trade Development Facility (STDF) was agreed at a meeting of the STDF Policy Committee hosted by the Food and Agriculture Organization in Rome on 18 December 2006. The medium term strategy will run from 2007 to 2011. The strategy places greater emphasis on the STDF acting as a mechanism for co-ordination in the provision of sanitary and phytosanitary (SPS) technical co-operation. An important element to this work will be the dissemination of lessons on good practice in this area.

2. The STDF will continue to provide funding for technical co-operation activities, but with greater emphasis on the use of project preparation grants. It will also aim to mobilise financial resources within the general donor community when funding projects, rather than relying exclusively on the STDF's limited budgetary funds. To implement the strategy, a target level of annual funding of US\$5 million has been established by the Policy Committee.

3. A further two projects and one project preparation grant have been approved for funding. The total number of projects and project preparation grants (PPGs) approved by the STDF stands at 24 projects and 22 PPGs. Six projects were completed in 2006. Evaluations of four of these projects have been commissioned. Further evaluations are planned for projects finishing in 2007.

4. Applications for STDF funding may be made at any point in the year. The STDF Working Group will meet three times in 2007, i.e. on 2 March, 29 June and (tentatively) on 20 October 2007. The deadlines for the submission of project proposals are 12 May 2007 and 2 September 2007. Detailed information on how to apply, eligibility criteria and general information on the STDF can be found at: [www.standardsfacility.org](http://www.standardsfacility.org). The website also contains training materials collected from partner agencies and a link to the database on SPS technical activities.

**STDF Medium Term Strategy (2007-2011)**

5. The new STDF medium term strategy places much greater emphasis on information sharing and co-ordination in the supply and receipt of SPS-related technical co-operation. This objective will be achieved through close contact with donors and developing countries, improved reporting to the WTO/OECD Trade Capacity Building Database and research on the experience of both donors and beneficiaries in SPS-related capacity building. Lessons learnt will particularly assist donors to capture good practices and avoid duplication with past, present or planned activities. It will also assist beneficiaries in the formulation of technical co-operation requests.

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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 or obligations under the WTO.

6. Research will be conducted on experience in the request and offer, design and receipt, and implementation of SPS-related technical cooperation on the part of both beneficiaries and donors. To facilitate this research, a series of regional consultations between donors and beneficiaries are planned. Such consultations would also aim to identify gaps in the provision of SPS-related technical co-operation from which projects could be designed. Two such consultations will be organised in 2007 - one in Central America in collaboration with the International Institute for Co-operation on Agriculture (IICA) and the other in the East African Community. On the basis of an evaluation of the first two events, further regional consultations would be planned for 2008 and beyond. The intention would be to cover all regions during the period of the Medium Term Strategy (2007-11).

7. Greater use will be made of project preparation grants (PPGs) in future STDF programme development as a means to mobilize funds both from within the STDF and from the wider donor community. PPGs continue to be a key mechanism to meet the target to devote 40 per cent of Facility resources to Least Developed Countries (LDCs) and Other Low Income Economies (OLIEs) - a target which has been retained for both PPGs and projects. PPGs will be used to ensure synergy with other on-going initiatives, such as the identification of SPS needs under the Integrated Framework for Trade-Related Technical Assistance to Least Developed Countries (IF), and assist in conducting surveys of national capacity in the SPS area, for instance through the use of capacity evaluation tools. Greater reliance will be placed on the use of PPGs to provide a basis for project interventions. A further aspect to improved donor co-ordination is that projects arising from STDF funded PPGs may be subsequently funded by donors or other on-going assistance programmes.

8. The medium term strategy is reproduced in an annex to this document. The operating plan for 2007 and the operational rules for the STDF can be downloaded from the STDF website: [www.standardsfacility.org](http://www.standardsfacility.org)

### **New projects approved**

9. A total of four project grant applications and two PPGs were considered by the STDF Working Group at its meeting on 16-17 October 2006. Of these funding requests, a total of two projects and one PPG were approved for funding. The Secretariat is currently finalizing contracting arrangements for these activities.

**Table 1: New projects approved**

<b>Project title</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Project budget</b>
STDF 108 rev.1: Development of sustainable institutional SPS capabilities in the Americas	The project builds on the existing SPS initiative for the Americas and was based on a peer review of SPS compliance by countries in the IICA region.	US\$ 585,588
STDF 133 rev.1: Capacity building in the use of the Phytosanitary capacity evaluation tool in the Pacific.	The objective of the project is to train national staff in national plant protection organizations to apply the phytosanitary capacity evaluation tool.	US\$ 261,780

**Table 2: New Project Preparation Grant approved**

<b>Project title</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Project budget</b>
STDF 155: Nicaragua market oriented training service on standards application	This project preparation grant aims to work with stakeholders in Nicaragua's food and agriculture export industry to understand how to meet SPS requirements imposed by their trading partners.	US\$ 20,000

**On-going and completed projects**

10. Table 3 provides an overview of the implementation status of STDF projects and PPGs. Summaries on the on-going status of STDF projects and accompanying reports will soon be added to the STDF website.

11. A total of 6 projects were completed in 2006. One completed project (STDF 14) concerns the development of a veterinary capacity evaluation tool by the OIE in collaboration with IICA (STDF 14). The tool builds on IICA work with the Performance Vision and Strategy tool. The project has been field tested in Latin American countries and its application in Africa was considered at an OIE Seminar on Animal Health Policies, in N'Djamena, Chad, on 13-15 February 2006. The capacity evaluation tool was formally adopted at the 74<sup>th</sup> Annual General Session of the International Committee of the OIE on 21-26 May 2006.

12. Another completed project (STDF 56) has resulted in the development of a Manual of Good Practice for Animal Feeding as a resource document for use by feed manufacturers. It provides practical support information and guidance for the implementation of the Codex Code of Practice on Good Animal Feeding. Awareness of the Codex Code has been raised through a number of workshops in developing countries.

13. Project (STDF 37) resulted in the organization of a workshop addressing issues surrounding the implementation of ISPM No. 15 (Guidelines for regulating wood packaging material in international trade), the first commodity-specific standard adopted under the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC). Training materials were developed in the form of a workbook which provides information on programmes for ISPM No. 15 already developed by various countries. These can be downloaded from the internet at:

<https://www.ippc.int/servlet/CDSServlet?status=ND00OTEyNyY2PWVuJmZPSomMzc9a29z>.

14. The STDF website is being updated and will soon contain further information on completed projects, project reports and information on lessons learnt in implementation.

**Table 3: Implementation Status of Approved STDF Projects and PPGs**

**(a) Status of Approved Projects**

<b>Project Number</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Implementing Agency</b>	<b>Beneficiary</b>	<b>Budget in US\$</b>	<b>Approval date</b>	<b>Start Date</b>	<b>End Date</b>	<b>Status</b>
STDF 108	Institutional capacity of countries in the Americas	Peer review of SPS compliance building on the Initiatives of the Americas	IICA	IICA Countries	585,588	Oct-06	To be confirmed (TBC)	TBC	Awaiting final letters of support before implementation begins.
STDF 133	Phytosanitary capacity evaluation in the Pacific	Application of the phytosanitary capacity evaluation tool in the Pacific.	South Pacific Forum Secretariat	South Pacific Forum Members	261,780	Oct-06	TBC	TBC	Awaiting final revisions before contracting.
STDF 145	Rwanda Horticulture Export Standards Initiative (RHESI)	The project aims to establish a plant health management in Rwanda. The project will address SPS issues for specific commodities.	Michigan State University	Rwanda	526,674	June-06	Feb-07	Feb-09	Awaiting budget final amendments before contracting.
STDF 146	Strengthening phytosanitary controls in Mali – with particular reference to mango exports	The project aims to strengthen capacity in Mali in phytosanitary control in order to contribute to export diversification and poverty alleviation.	Ministry of Commerce (IF focal point)	Mali	508,000	June-06	Feb-07	Feb-09	Contracted. Implementation to commence in February 2007.

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STDF 48	Quality control for shea and cashew nut products in Benin	The aim of the project is to apply good agricultural practices so as to overcome problems of mycotoxin contamination for shea and cashew nut production.	WTO	Benin	260,000	Feb-06	Jan-07	Jan-08	Following approval of a final budget, the project will be contracted .
STDF 120	Risk analysis and risk assessment training in India	The project grant will provide training on risk analysis and risk assessment procedures.	WTO	India	244,050	Feb-06	Dec-07	Dec-08	Implementation underway. First food safety training complete.
STDF 69	Capacity-building for safety of Yemeni Seafood products	The aim of the project is to assist the Yemen seafood exporter's association to meet SPS requirements and thereby to improve the quality and safety of Yemeni seafood products.	World Bank	Yemen	371,075	Feb-06	Jan-07	Jan-09	Ready to start. On-going discussion with World Bank on contracting issues and modalities for implementation.
STDF 114	Effective aflatoxin management system in Brazil nut production	The project grant looks into factors affecting aflatoxin contamination in Brazil nut production and provides training to meet international standards. Results will be shared with other producers in the region.	WTO	Brazil (Peru and Bolivia)	619,664	Feb-06	Jul-06	Jul-08	Implementation commenced.
STDF 62	Strengthening food safety in Cameroon	The aim of the project is to reactivate a national committee on food safety and provide training for key stakeholders in the public and private sector in Cameroon and to design a national strategy on food safety.	FAO	Cameroon	295,710	Sep-05	TBC	TBC	On-going consultations with FAO on project implementation.

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STDF 64	Facilitating livestock trade in Djibouti	The aim of the project is to facilitate livestock trade from Djibouti. The project will be focused around training for both the private and public sector in SPS issues in veterinary area.	FAO	Djibouti	560,000	Sep-05	TBC	TBC	On-going consultations with FAO and Djibouti Chamber of Commerce on project implementation.
STDF 65	Support to compliance with official and commercial standards in the fruit and vegetable sector in Guinea	The project is focused on assisting the public and private sector in Guinea in training to meet official and commercial standards for fruit and vegetable exports.	UNCTAD	Guinea	600,000	Sep-05	Dec-05	May-08	National project management unit established and training started.
STDF 79	Quality information on SPS issues- a pre requisite for capacity building	Improving the sharing of information on official standards (including the supporting scientific evaluations) developed by OIE, IPPC and Codex on the International Portal on Food Safety, Animal and Plant Health. The project will improve the sustainability of core resources for the International Portal on Food Safety Animal and Plant Health.	FAO	All developing countries	470,000	Sep-05	May / June 2006	May-08	Implementation on-going.

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STDF 89	International Plant Health Risk Analysis Workshop	The main aim of the project was to provide funding for 29 developing and least-developed country officials to attend a workshop on pest risk analysis in Canada on 24-28 October 2005.	FAO	Developing and Least-Developing Country participants in workshop.	147,000	Sep-05	Oct-05	May-07	Extension granted until 31 May 2007 to finalize the project. IPPC collecting information to be used as training materials. Information to be found at: <a href="https://www.ippc.int/servlet/CDSServlet?status=ND01ODQ1NSY2PWVuJmzPSomMzc9a29z.An">https://www.ippc.int/servlet/CDSServlet?status=ND01ODQ1NSY2PWVuJmzPSomMzc9a29z.An</a> .
STDF 56	Capacity building for implementation of the Codex Alimentarius Code of Practice for animal feeding	Training on implementation of the Codex Code of Good Practice on Animal feeding through a series of regional workshops in Africa, Latin America and Asia.	International Feed Industry Federation (IFIF)	Feed industry	150,000	Mar-05	Sep-05	Nov-06	Completed project. IFIF is planning follow-up actions. Training materials on the STDF website at <a href="http://www.standardsfacility.org">www.standardsfacility.org</a>

Project Number	Title	Description	Implementing Agency	Beneficiary	Budget in US\$	Approval date	Start Date	End Date	Status
STDF 37	Assistance to Developing Countries in the Implementation of ISPM 15	Project centrepiece, a workshop on implementation of ISPM 15, was held in Vancouver, Canada on 28 February – 4 March 2005. Training materials related to the workshop can be found on the IPPC website at <a href="http://www.ippc.int">www.ippc.int</a>	IPPC/ FAO	Participants at ISPM 15 workshop	332,000	Sep-04	Nov-04	Mar-06	Materials developed during the workshop are available at: <a href="https://www.ippc.int/servlet/CDSServlet?status=ND000TEyNyY2PWVuJmZPSomMzc9a29z">https://www.ippc.int/servlet/CDSServlet?status=ND000TEyNyY2PWVuJmZPSomMzc9a29z</a> . IPPC currently collecting information on adoption of the ISPM 15 standard to evaluate the workshop's impact.
STDF 13	Development of Regional Action Plans for Selected African Regions to Enhance Veterinary Capacity	A regional approach to veterinary capacity building in Sub-Saharan Africa.	OIE	Mali, Ethiopia and Djibouti	305,000	Sep-04	Oct-06	Apr-07	Project under implementation.



Project Number	Title	Description	Implementing Agency	Beneficiary	Budget in US\$	Approval date	Start Date	End Date	Status
STDF 14	OIE veterinary capacity evaluation project	The veterinary capacity evaluation tool (developed in collaboration with the Inter-American Institute for Co-operation on Agriculture) has been field-tested in South America and discussed in Sub-Saharan Africa. Tool was adopted as part of the OIE code in May 2006.	OIE	IICA countries and Chad	37,000	Nov-03	-	May-06	Completed. The veterinary capacity evaluation was formally adopted at the 74 <sup>th</sup> Annual General Session of the International Committee of the OIE (21-26 May 2006). OIE's collaborating centre in Lyon is currently training a cadre of evaluators capable of using the tool.
STDF 20	Country-based plans for SPS-related development	The aim of the project is to undertake baseline studies of SPS capacity and to apply cost-benefit analysis to examine the returns on investment in terms of foreign trade and an improved SPS situation. Fieldwork in Uganda and Peru.	WTO	Peru and Uganda	170,862	Sep-03	Nov-04	Sep-06	Final validation of project documents. Project to finish shortly.
STDF 19	Model arrangements for SPS stakeholder involvement at the national level	The aim of the project is to look at national arrangements for the circulation of SPS information at national level among relevant stakeholders and to make recommendations of general applicability on how this co-ordination may be improved. Fieldwork in Paraguay and Sri Lanka.	WTO	Sri Lanka and Paraguay	291,218	Sep-04	Dec-04	Apr-07	Approaching completion. Project extended until April 2007. Final workshop in Sri Lanka planned for March 2007.

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STDF 9	Model Programme for Developing Food Standards within a Risk Analysis Framework	Risk analysis training for policy makers in the Asia Oceania region in the area of food safety.	FAO	Asia Pacific countries	70,848	Nov-03	Mar-05	Sep-06	Project completed. Information to appear on STDF website shortly.
STDF 10	International Portal on Food Safety, Animal and Plant Health project	Establishment of national windows to the International Portal on Food Safety, Animal and Plant Health. Fieldwork undertaken in Turkey and Uganda.	FAO	Turkey and Uganda	59,400	Sep-03	Mar-05	Sep-06	One outstanding training event before project is finished.
STDF 15	Expanding SPS Capacities at National and Regional Levels	Additional training for veterinary officials on the back of WTO technical assistance activities. OIE has commissioned a training syllabus which will be of general use for technical co-operation activities.	OIE	Workshops held in Mali, Thailand, Egypt, CIS and planned in Latin America.	130,614	Sep-04	Sep-04	Nov-06	Project completed. Information to appear on STDF website shortly.

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STDF 5	STDF Database	Database on SPS technical assistance has been established at <a href="http://stdfdb.wto.org">http://stdfdb.wto.org</a> . Data covers years 2001-2003.	WTO	Database	73,474	Jun-03	Jul-03	Dec-05	Project completed. Data being migrated to the WTO/OECD trade capacity building database with the additional functionalities developed for the STDF database. Report prepared for SPS Committee in document G/SPS/GEN/726.

**(b) Status of Approved PPGs**

<b>Project Number</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Implementing Agency</b>	<b>Beneficiary</b>	<b>Budget in US\$</b>	<b>Approval date</b>	<b>Start Date</b>	<b>End Date</b>	<b>Status</b>
STDF 155	Nicaragua market oriented training service on standards application	Project preparation grant for the Nicaragua market-oriented training service on standards application (MOTSSA)	Michigan State University	Nicaragua	20,000	Oct-06	April-07	June-07	Pending contracting.
STDF 127	Project preparation grant to strengthen the capacity of the Benin Chamber of Commerce to track SPS related development in exports markets	The objective of the PPG is to establish an information center within the Benin Chamber of Commerce to ensure that firms are aware of SPS measures affecting their existing or planned exports. The PPG will also examine the feasibility of a well targeted regional approach in the West African Economic and Monetary Union (WAEMU).	WTO	Benin	20,000	June-06	Nov-06	Jan-07	Work underway.
STDF 126	Assistance establishing an industry organisation on horticulture in Tanzania	The project preparation grant has funded development of a business plan for an Association in the horticulture sector in Tanzania.	WTO/ Tanzanian Horticulture Association	Tanzania	5,500	Feb-06	Sept-06	Feb-07	Completed.

Project Number	Title	Description	Implementing Agency	Beneficiary	Budget in US\$	Approval date	Start Date	End Date	Status
STDF 46	Project preparation grant on implementation of Codex standards (WHO Africa)	A project preparation grant was approved to assist WHO Africa to develop a project proposal assisting selected African countries to implement Codex standards.	WHO/WTO/ World Bank	Benin and Tanzania	20,000	Feb-06	Oct-06	TBC	Tanzania and Benin selected as pilot countries for the project. Project being revised.
STDF 113	Project preparation grant to survey food safety needs in Burundi	A project preparation grant will be used to apply the joint WHO/FAO evaluation tool of official control services to survey the food safety situation and recommend a trade-related project.	WTO/ Burundi Standards Bureau	Burundi	19,740	Feb-06	Oct-06	Dec-06	Consultant identified. Work nearing completion.
STDF 116	Project preparation grant for the establishment of a traceability system in the livestock sector in Costa Rica	The project preparation grant aims to assist in the development of the animal health directorate's National Epidemiological Surveillance Programme by introducing a traceability system for livestock farms. The PPG activities will examine issues of equivalence with systems operating internationally.	WTO	Costa Rica	20,000	Feb-06	TBC	TBC	Consultant identified. Contracting under way
STDF 88	Nepal SPS training project preparation grant	Preparation activities will focus on evaluating the training needs of Nepal's SPS control authorities and designing a training programme which responds to those needs.	WTO	Nepal	20,000	Sep-05	Nov-06	Jan-07	Project application being considered in March 2007.

Project Number	Title	Description	Implementing Agency	Beneficiary	Budget in US\$	Approval date	Start Date	End Date	Status
STDF 100	Project preparation grant for Cape Verde	Fieldwork to be focused on applying the FAO/WHO developed "Guidelines to Assess Capacity Building Needs in Official Food Control Systems" and designing a project on the basis of findings.	WTO	Cape Verde	20,000	Sep-05	TBC	Jun-06	Consultant selected. Fieldwork approaching completion. Donors contacted to fund consultant project.
STDF 101	Eritrea project preparation grant	Fieldwork to be focused on applying the FAO/WHO developed "Guidelines to Assess Capacity Building Needs in Official Food Control Systems" and designing a project on the basis of findings.	WTO	Eritrea	20,000	Sep-05	Jan-06	Apr-06	Fieldwork completed. Report and project submitted to the STDF Working Group. Project not accepted for funding.
STDF 102	Project preparation grant for Mali	Preparation activities focused on project design in the fruit and vegetable sector.	WTO	Mali	20,000	Sep-05	Mar-06	May-06	Fieldwork completed. Report and project submitted to the STDF Working Group. Project conditionally accepted for funding in June 2006.
STDF 103	Project preparation grant for Rwanda	Preparation activities focused on project design in the fruit and vegetable sector.		Rwanda	20,000	Sep-05	Mar-06	Apr-06	Fieldwork complete. Report and project submitted to the STDF Working Group. Project conditionally accepted for funding in June 2006.

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STDF 105	Project preparation grant on compartmentalization	A concept project to design a demonstration project on how to apply the concept of compartmentalization.		Compartmentalization	20,000	Sep-05	TBC	TBC	This PPG was placed on hold while OIE worked on additional guidance on this issue. For decision at March 2007 Working Group.
STDF 38	Agricultural Health and Food Safety Laboratory Needs Assessment for CARICOM Countries	A survey of laboratory capacity in CARICOM with a view to developing a project to assist guiding a regional strategy on laboratory infrastructure.		Caribbean countries	20,000	Sep-04	Feb-06	May-06	CARICOM has submitted a draft consultant's report. Awaiting comments from partners.
STDF 62	Project preparation grant in Cameroon	Fieldwork concentrated on application of FAO/WHO developed "Guidelines to Assess Capacity Building Needs in Official Food Control Systems".		Cameroon	20,000	Sep-04	Nov-04	Jun-05	Fieldwork complete. Report and project submitted to the STDF Working Group. Project accepted for funding in August 2005.
STDF 52	Project preparation grant on aflatoxin in Malawi and Zambia	Terms of Reference developed with FAO to design project to address post-harvest aflatoxin contamination problems in the paprika and groundnut sectors in Malawi and Zambia.		Malawi and Zambia	30,000	Mar-05	Mar-07	May-07	Consultant selected. Contracting under way.

Project Number	Title	Description	Implementing Agency	Beneficiary	Budget in US\$	Approval date	Start Date	End Date	Status
STDF 68	Project preparation grant on South Asian Association for Regional Co-operation (SAARC) SPS co-operation	Support for efforts at regional co-operation on SPS among SAARC countries.		SAARC	20,000	Mar-05	TBC	TBC	Project on hold due to parallel EU project in the standards area.
STDF 63	Project preparation grant in Benin	Fieldwork concentrated on application of FAO/WHO developed "Guidelines to Assess Capacity Building Needs in Official Food Control Systems".		Benin	20,000	Mar-05	Apr-05	Aug-05	Fieldwork complete. Report and projects submitted to the STDF Working Group. Project accepted for funding in February 2006.
STDF 61	Project preparation grant in Cambodia	Fieldwork undertaken in Cambodia. Grant application presented in July 2005.		Cambodia	20,000	Mar-05	Apr-05	Jul-05	Fieldwork complete. Report and project submitted to the STDF Working Group. Project not accepted for funding.
STDF 64	Project preparation grant in Djibouti	Field research and design of project in the livestock sector in Djibouti.		Djibouti	20,000	Mar-05	Apr-05	Jul-05	Fieldwork complete. Report and project submitted to the STDF Working Group. Project accepted for funding in September 2005.



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STDF 65	Project preparation grant in Guinea	Consultant contracted to build on UNCTAD evaluation of costs of compliance in the tropical fruit sector and design project application.		Guinea	20,000	Mar-05	Apr-05	Aug-05	Fieldwork complete. Report and project submitted to the STDF Working Group. Project accepted for funding in August 2005.
STDF 66	Project preparation grant in Mozambique	Consultant contracted to build on UNCTAD evaluation of costs of compliance in the tropical fruit sector and design project application.		Mozambique	20,000	Mar-05	Apr-05	Aug-05	Fieldwork complete. Project funded bilaterally by United Kingdom, Department for International Development.
STDF 69	Project preparation grant in Yemen	Survey of SPS issues in the fisheries sector and project design.		Yemen	20,000	Mar-05	Sep-05	Dec-05	Fieldwork complete. Report and project submitted to the STDF Working Group. Project accepted for funding in February 2006.

ANNEX

**MEDIUM TERM STRATEGY OF THE  
STANDARDS AND TRADE DEVELOPMENT FACILITY**

**(2007-2011)**

A joint initiative of the Food and Agriculture Organization, the World  
Organization for Animal Health, the World Bank, the World Health  
Organization and the World Trade Organization



## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1. On 8 June 2006, the Standards and Trade Development Facility (STDF) Policy Committee agreed to establish a Task Force charged with making recommendations on strategic issues relevant to the medium term operation of the STDF. Membership of the Task Force, which is chaired by the United Kingdom, includes representatives of all STDF partners, as well as donors contributing funds to the STDF.<sup>2</sup> Following its terms of reference (contained in document STDF 149) and with the assistance of the STDF Secretariat, the Task Force has drafted two documents, i.e. a Medium Term Strategy (contained in document STDF 154) accompanied by a revised set of Operational Rules (contained in document STDF 139). These documents are complemented by an STDF operating plan for 2007 prepared by the STDF Secretary (STDF 163).

### Medium Term Strategy

2. The Medium Term Strategy will run from 2007-2011 and is designed to move the STDF onto more stable foundations. The Strategy puts much greater emphasis on information sharing and co-ordination in the supply and receipt of SPS-related technical co-operation. This objective will be achieved through close contact with donors and developing countries, improved reporting to the WTO/OECD Trade Capacity Building Database and research on the experience of both donors and beneficiaries in SPS-related capacity building. Lessons learnt will particularly assist donors to capture good practices and avoid duplication with past, present or planned activities. It will also assist beneficiaries in the formulation of technical co-operation requests.

3. Greater use will be made of project preparation grants (PPGs) in future STDF programme development as a means to mobilize funds both from within the STDF and from the wider donor community. PPGs continue to be a key mechanism to meet the target to devote 40 per cent of Facility resources to Least Developed Countries (LDCs) and other Low Income Economies (OLIEs) – a target which has been retained for both PPGs and projects. PPGs will be used to ensure synergy with other on-going initiatives, such as the identification of SPS needs under the Integrated Framework for Trade-Related Technical Assistance to Least Developed Countries (IF), and assist in conducting surveys of national capacity in the SPS area, for instance through the use of capacity evaluation tools. Greater reliance will be placed on the use of PPGs to provide a basis for project interventions. A further aspect to improved donor co-ordination is that projects arising from STDF funded PPGs may be subsequently funded by donors or other on-going assistance programmes.

4. The STDF will continue to fund projects, but eligibility criteria have been tightened and will be more rigorously applied, in particular by the Secretariat at the initial review stage. Technical co-operation projects should be innovative, sustainable, preventative and replicable; address gaps in SPS information and training materials; or aim to improve co-ordination among SPS technical co-operation providers. Furthermore, linkages with other programmes, notably the IF, will be further strengthened. Project implementation and oversight will also require greater input from STDF partners and third parties.

5. To fulfil the aims of the STDF and implement the work programme, predictable and sustained funding over the Medium Term Strategy implementation period (2007-2011) is needed, ideally in the form of multi-annual commitments. To implement the strategy, a target level of annual funding of US\$5 million has been established by the Policy Committee.

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<sup>2</sup> STDF partners are the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), World Organization for Animal Health (OIE), World Health Organization (WHO), World Bank and World Trade Organization (WTO). Participating donors include Canada, Denmark, France, Netherlands, Sweden, United Kingdom and United States. The European Communities and Australia also participated as observers.

## **Operational Rules**

6. The STDF Business Plan, contained in document G/SPS/GEN/523, has served its purpose in establishing the foundations for the STDF but it does not unambiguously set out operational rules for the STDF. Additionally, the Task Force was charged with making recommendations on the establishment of criteria for membership of and observer status in the STDF. To address these and other operational issues, the Task Force has drafted a revised set of Operational Rules on the basis of the current Business Plan.

7. Membership of the STDF includes the STDF partners, donors contributing funds to the STDF as well as developing countries (in accordance with a rotation mechanism). To facilitate decision-making, a rotation mechanism will also apply for donor representation in the Policy Committee. Membership of the Working Group will continue to include participation of the Secretariats of the Codex Alimentarius Commission (CAC) and the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC). Membership of the Working Group may be extended to participation of other relevant organizations on the basis of a unanimous decision of the Policy Committee.

8. Criteria have also been established for observer status in the STDF. Organizations with SPS expertise or implementing SPS-related technical cooperation may participate as observers in meetings of the Working Group. Requests for participation will be considered by the Chairman of the Working Group in consultation with the STDF Secretary on the basis of the SPS-related activities of the organization and its willingness to share information on its activities. To facilitate reporting, those organizations implementing or supervising STDF projects shall automatically be granted observer status for the duration of these projects.

9. The Operational Rules further clarify the tasks and responsibilities of the different actors involved, in particular in relation to grant allocation and the monitoring and supervision of projects. Eligibility criteria are more clearly and precisely formulated. To give better guidance to applicants and improve the overall quality of proposals submitted to the STDF for funding, the Task Force recommends that the STDF Secretariat draft a separate guidance document for potential applicants based on the revised Operational Rules. This document will be prepared for the first STDF Working Group meeting of 2007.

## I. OVERVIEW OF THE FACILITY

### *Aims of the Standards and Trade Development Facility (STDF)*

10. The aims of the STDF are:

- to assist developing countries enhance their expertise and capacity to analyze and to implement international sanitary and phytosanitary (SPS) standards, so improving their human, animal and plant health situation, and thus ability to gain and maintain market access; and
- to act as a vehicle for co-ordination among technical co-operation providers, the mobilization of funds, the exchange of experience and the dissemination of good practice in relation to the provision and receipt of SPS-related technical co-operation.

11. In addition to facilitating international trade, SPS capacity building can result in improved human and agricultural health conditions for local markets and so favour economic and social development. The STDF is distinct from and complementary to other initiatives to facilitate the participation of developing countries in SPS standard-setting processes.

### *What is the STDF?*

12. The STDF is both a co-ordinating and a financing mechanism. As a co-ordinating mechanism, the STDF acts as a forum for information sharing on past, present and planned SPS-related technical co-operation activities. Central to the STDF's co-ordination role is reporting on technical co-operation provided or planned, the sharing of project and programme implementation experience and the dissemination of good practice in relation to both the provision and receipt of SPS-related technical co-operation. A further component of STDF's co-ordination function is to ensure that projects and other proposed initiatives do not duplicate past, present or planned technical co-operation activities.<sup>3</sup>

13. Grant financing is available for projects from private and public organizations in developing countries seeking to comply with international SPS standards and hence gain or maintain market access. Applicants are required to contribute to the cost of project implementation. Project preparation grants are available for project development and aim to bridge the gap between the identification of needs (through such initiatives as the Integrated Framework) and their articulation into projects. Applications are particularly encouraged from organizations in Least Developed Countries (LDCs) or Other Low Income Economies (OLIEs) and/or which address SPS compliance issues at a regional level.<sup>4</sup>

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<sup>3</sup> As recommended by the OECD Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness.

<sup>4</sup> A target has been established to allocate at least 40 per cent of STDF project funds to LDCs and OLIEs.

***Value added by the STDF***

14. The STDF will act as a reference point for good practice in the provision of SPS-related technical cooperation and aims to develop into a centre of excellence. It is designed to strengthen current and future co-operation efforts. The STDF will provide information on good practice that can be drawn upon by potential donors and recipients and disseminate implementation lessons from recent technical co-operation efforts so furthering co-operation and collaboration among donors.

15. The partners in the STDF are singularly qualified to assist developing countries in dealing with relevant international standards, guidelines and recommendations for food safety, plant and animal health. The STDF brings together the standard setting organizations designated by the WTO Agreement on the Application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures (SPS Agreement) as reference bodies in the area of food safety (Codex Alimentarius Commission) and plant health (International Plant Protection Convention or IPPC), either in their own right or through the involvement of their parent organizations, i.e. the World Health Organization (WHO) and the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), as well as in the area of animal health and zoonoses (World Organization for Animal Health or OIE). The World Bank contributes analytical backing and a development perspective, while involvement of the World Trade Organization (WTO) brings a "trade rules perspective" to the STDF. The STDF is designed to benefit from the experience and skills that each partner brings to the Facility.

16. Furthermore, through the involvement of the WTO Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures (SPS Committee), which brings together Geneva-based delegates and national experts from the 150 Members of the WTO, the STDF has a natural constituency from which to draw support (analytical and financial) and project proposals (over 80 per cent of the WTO Members are developing countries).

17. The STDF does not replace or compete with either the standard setting work of OIE, IPPC and Codex or the regular technical cooperation activities of STDF partners and participating donors. STDF reinforces and complements these activities by bringing the collective expertise of the five partners, donors and recipients together in one facility. The STDF is distinct from and complementary to other initiatives aimed at fostering increased participation by developing countries in the standard setting process such as the Codex Trust Fund and the IPPC Trust Fund.<sup>5</sup> The STDF does not cover the costs of participation in standard setting activities, but the expertise and capacity gained under the STDF will enhance the ability of developing country participants to effectively contribute to the process.

18. The STDF seeks to build on the work of bilateral, regional and multilateral donors by:

- providing a mechanism for co-ordination and information sharing on past, present and planned activities among technical co-operation providers, the exchange of experience and the dissemination of good practice;
- addressing underlying issues of SPS capacity building in beneficiary countries (in particular in LDCs or OLIEs or on a regional basis), ideally through preventative, innovative and/or demonstration projects which may be replicated by other donors; and
- supporting collaborative projects by STDF partners which aim *inter alia* to address gaps in SPS information or training materials or which aim to improve co-ordination among SPS technical co-operation providers.

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<sup>5</sup> See <http://www.who.int/foodsafety/codex/trustfund/en/> for further information on the Codex Trust Fund and <http://www.ippc.int> for further information on the IPPC Trust Fund.

- co-operating with STDF partners, donors and recipients in the elaboration of comprehensive, sectoral (e.g. food safety, animal or plant health specific) or product-based national strategies.

### ***Background to the STDF***

19. The STDF grew out of a joint communiqué issued by the Heads of FAO, OIE, World Bank, WHO and WTO at the Doha Ministerial Conference in November 2001.<sup>6</sup> In the communiqué, the five organizations agreed to jointly explore new technical and financial mechanisms for coordination and resource mobilization and to build alliances between standard setting bodies and the implementing and financing agencies so as to ensure the most effective use of technical and financial resources.

20. The five organizations formally established the STDF in August 2002 as a partnership and a Trust Fund with three years of start-up financing from the World Bank and WTO.<sup>7</sup> On 10 September 2004, the partners formally adopted a Business Plan for the STDF.<sup>8</sup> The plan explained the organization and operation of the Facility, including information on project eligibility criteria, project funding possibilities and the project review process. In 2005, membership of the STDF was expanded to include donors and representatives of developing country beneficiaries. The STDF is funded through voluntary contributions to the Trust Fund established under the financial regulations and rules of WTO.

21. An independent evaluation of the operation of the Facility was completed in December 2005. The evaluation concluded that:

- the STDF had proven successful in attracting resources and approving projects, but faced challenges in securing sustained donor financing;
- it had actively exploited synergies with other programmes (notably the Integrated Framework);
- it had exceeded the target to devote 40 per cent of Facility resources to projects in LDCs or OLIEs; and
- the STDF Secretariat needed to be strengthened given the very wide range of roles undertaken and to reconsider its project management functions.

22. To respond to conclusions of the evaluation, a Task Force was established by the STDF Policy Committee at its meeting on 8 June 2006. The Task Force was charged with reporting on the establishment of a medium term strategy including recommendations on concomitant multi-annual donor funding and appropriate management arrangements – notably the tasks and responsibilities of partners and the STDF Secretariat. The Task Force was also charged with establishing criteria for membership of and observer status in the STDF.

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<sup>6</sup> WT/MIN(01)/ST/97.

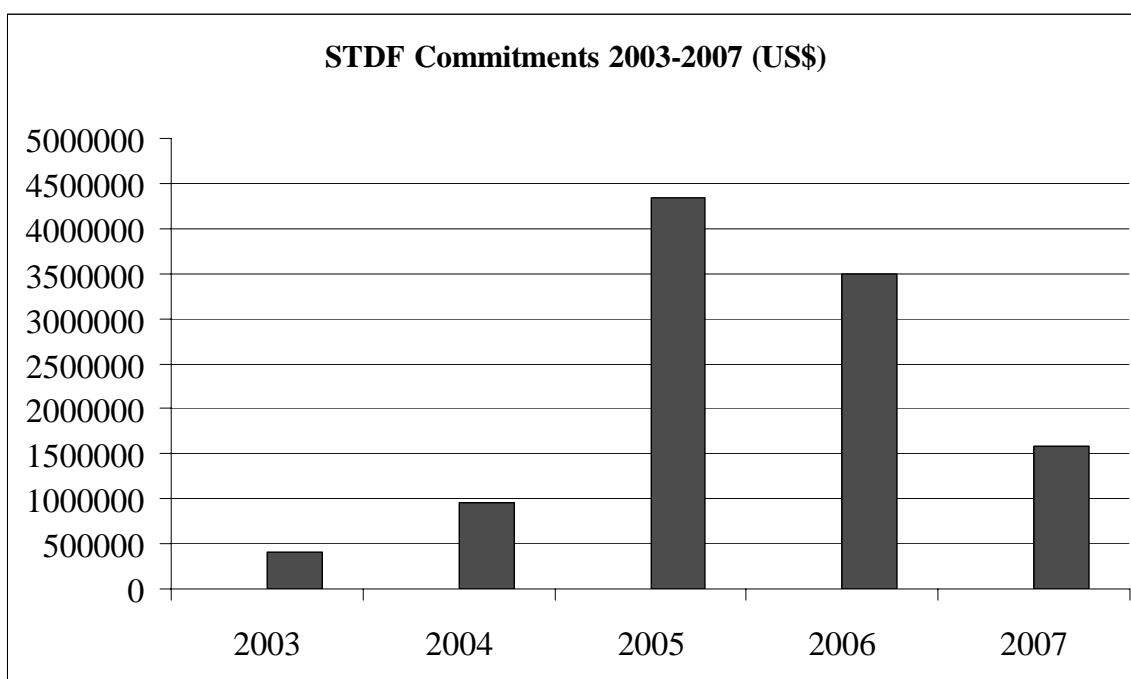
<sup>7</sup> Funding of US\$300,000 per annum for a maximum three years ending in June 2005 from the Development Grant Facility was approved by the Board of Directors of the World Bank on 27 June 2002. The WTO accepted to serve as the executing institution on 27 August 2002 and committed financial resources (CHF100,000 in 2003 and 2004 rising to CHF225,000 in 2005 and 2006) to the STDF from the Doha Development Agenda Global Trust Fund.

<sup>8</sup> G/SPS/GEN/523.

## II. OVERVIEW OF CURRENT OPERATIONS

23. Following adoption of the Business Plan in September 2004, contributions complementing the original seed funding from the World Bank and WTO have been received from donors. Of these contributions, those from Germany, the Netherlands and Sweden were formally multi-annual contributions. Denmark, the United Kingdom and the United States have made several single year contributions. A further five donors (Australia, Canada, the European Commission, France and Italy) have made single year contributions. The STDF is facing funding constraints with insufficient resources to implement all currently approved projects. One objective in revising the STDF operating plan is to ensure adequate future resources and their optimal utilization.

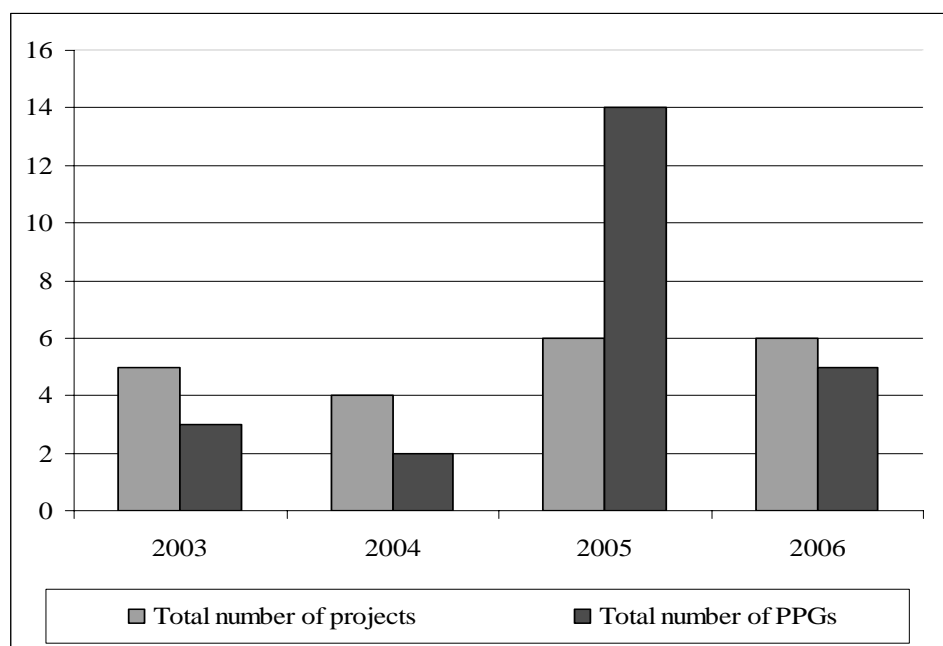
**Figure 1: Donor funding of the STDF**



24. A total of 23 projects and 22 project preparation grants had been approved for STDF funding at the end of November 2006. At that time, seven projects had been completed, 11 were being implemented and six were awaiting contracting. Of the project preparation grants, ten had been completed, four were nearing completion and 8 were awaiting implementation.



**Figure 2: Projects and project preparation grants funded by the STDF**



25. The Business Plan provided three different operating scenarios for the STDF. The operating scenarios corresponded to funding levels of US\$3 million (low case), US\$5 million (medium case) and US\$7 million (high case). In 2005, funding levels were between the low and medium case scenarios. For the medium term strategy, the Policy Committee has established a target annual funding level of US\$5 million.

### **III. MEDIUM TERM STRATEGY**

26. The medium term strategy is designed to move the STDF from its current collection of projects into a programme, with more clearly defined procedures for funding and a much greater emphasis on co-ordination and the identification and dissemination of good practice in the provision of SPS-related technical co-operation. It also aims to address constraints faced by the STDF Secretariat in the delivery of this programme. The medium term strategy will run from 2007-2011 and emphasises the following areas:

#### **(i) *Re-inforcing the STDF's co-ordination function***

27. The STDF has been designed to:

- complement current and future technical co-operation efforts by multilateral, regional and bilateral donors;
- draw upon, apply and disseminate important implementation lessons from recent technical co-operation efforts in the SPS area; and
- achieve additional improvements in the quality of technical co-operation work through deeper collaboration.

28. Sharing information on past, present and planned technical cooperation activities will be central to the work of the STDF. To ensure more complete reporting, the STDF Secretariat will work

with bilateral, regional and multilateral donors to ensure that their activities are reported to the WTO/OECD Trade Capacity Building Database.<sup>9</sup> On the basis of data entered, overviews of the provision of SPS-related technical co-operation will be circulated to the SPS Committee and other fora.<sup>10</sup>

29. The database is a useful tool to determine where co-operation may have previously been provided. The quantitative and qualitative elements of this information will help improve national strategies (for example the World Bank's national action plans on SPS or the use of capacity evaluation tools). Such information could also guide funding decisions as technical cooperation should not duplicate past, present or planned activities, but instead should build on the lessons learnt from previous projects.

30. In addition to the quantitative reporting on SPS activities, the STDF Secretariat will also collect qualitative information from partners and donors - for example training materials, national or regional SPS action plans and experiences in the implementation of projects from both donors and beneficiaries.

31. The STDF Secretariat, in collaboration with partners and donors, will also examine the effectiveness of SPS-related technical co-operation. Research will be conducted on experience in the request and offer, design and receipt, and implementation of SPS-related technical cooperation on the part of both beneficiaries and donors. To facilitate this research, a series of regional consultations between donors and beneficiaries are planned. Such consultations would also aim to identify gaps in the provision of SPS-related technical co-operation from which projects could be designed.

32. The STDF aims to act as a reference point for good practice in the provision of SPS-related technical co-operation. A central element of the move from a collection of projects to a programme is learning from the experience of implementation of projects, both positive and negative. Key responsibilities of the STDF Secretariat will include:

- Reporting on the experience gained from the implementation of projects and regional consultations;
- Disseminating lessons learnt and good practice to the STDF Working Group and Policy Committee as well as the SPS Committee and other fora, in particular by developing manuals, videos, etc; and
- Updating the STDF website (and where appropriate the websites of STDF partners) to include project documents and related training materials.

33. The Secretariat will assist the STDF Working Group take these lessons into account when considering new funding applications for projects and PPGs and assist donors to ensure good practice in their own programmes.

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<sup>9</sup> The STDF database (<http://stdfdb.wto.org/>) improved the specificity of reporting on SPS related co-operation and improved entries for partner activities, but comparison of submissions by Members to the SPS Committee on technical co-operation activities with their entries in the WTO/OECD Trade Capacity Building Database highlighted a far more serious problem of under-reporting. The focus is now on ensuring full reporting on the WTO/OECD Trade Capacity Building Database. Additional entries are being made on the database to report more fully the SPS activities of donors and partners.

<sup>10</sup> A first analysis of SPS-related technical co-operation reported in the database can be found in document G/SPS/GEN/726.

**(ii) Building on linkages established with other programmes**

34. The STDF target to devote 40 per cent of Facility project grant resources to LDCs and OLIEs will be retained. To achieve this target, the STDF Secretariat will continue to build synergies with other technical co-operation trust funds managed by the WTO which aim to mainstream trade into development policy, notably the Integrated Framework.<sup>11</sup>

35. The STDF Secretariat will liaise closely with colleagues in the Integrated Framework Executive Secretariat to assist in the identification of SPS needs during the elaboration of national Diagnostic Trade Integration Studies (DTIS). The STDF Secretariat will provide recommendations on project preparation grant proposals and projects which address specific SPS policy and technical co-operation actions identified in the DTIS matrices. For specific SPS actions identified in the action matrices of IF countries, organizations with expertise in SPS-related co-operation, or the partner organization with technical competence in the area concerned (i.e. food safety, animal or plant health) will be invited to assist in the preparation of an application for a project preparation grant. In this way, the STDF will continue to bridge the gap between the identification of SPS needs and their realization.

36. The STDF will build synergies with other technical co-operation programmes either of a general nature, such as the Aid for Trade Initiative<sup>12</sup> or the Joint Integrated Technical Assistance Program (JITAP)<sup>13</sup>, or of a more specific SPS nature, such as interventions to tackle plant pests, animal diseases such as avian influenza or other major zoonotic diseases.

**(iii) Greater use of project preparation grants**

37. Project preparation grants (PPGs) are a key mechanism for future STDF programme development as they help overcome constraints faced by developing countries in the articulation of their needs. To date, a total of 22 PPGs have been commissioned.

38. Project preparation grants are also a mechanism for ensuring synergy with other on-going initiatives. For example, they can support project development for priority actions in the SPS area which have been identified in DTIS reviews conducted under the IF. Thus, PPGs will continue to bridge the gap between the identification of SPS needs and their articulation in projects.<sup>14</sup>

39. In addition, PPGs have been used to survey national capacity in the SPS area. These national surveys of capacity and needs can be specific surveys of the animal, plant or food safety areas or designed to build over-arching national strategies in bio-security.<sup>15</sup> The use of such tools can provide

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<sup>11</sup> The Integrated Framework for Trade-Related Technical Assistance to LDCs (IF) is a multi-agency, multi-donor program that assists LDCs to expand their participation in the global economy whereby enhancing their economic growth and poverty reduction strategies. As part of the IF process, Diagnostic Trade Integration Studies (DTIS) are completed in LDCs. These studies include policy and technical co-operation matrices which list measures necessary to mainstream trade into national development plans. Within the SPS area, these matrices identify a number of policy and technical co-operation actions which should be taken. The participating agencies are [IME](#), [ITC](#), [UNCTAD](#), [UNDP](#), [World Bank](#) and the [WTO](#). See <http://www.integratedframework.org/> for further information on the Integrated Framework.

<sup>12</sup> See [http://www.wto.org/english/tratop\\_e/dda\\_e/aid4trade\\_e.htm](http://www.wto.org/english/tratop_e/dda_e/aid4trade_e.htm) for further information on the Aid for Trade Initiative. The recommendations of the Task Force on Aid for Trade are contained in document WT/AFT/1.

<sup>13</sup> See <http://www.jitap.org/> for more information on JITAP.

<sup>14</sup> Nine of the 22 project preparation grants commissioned by November 2006 were based on needs identified in IF national DTIS.

<sup>15</sup> Capacity evaluation tools in the areas of animal health, food safety, plant health and bio-security may be applied with STDF funding.

a foundation for the development of donor strategies and provide a basis on which STDF projects can be established.

40. The main criterion in awarding preparation grants is the likelihood that the project developed may receive funding. Final project funding may be provided by the STDF or from another funding source, e.g. a bilateral donor. Greater reliance will be placed on the use of PPGs to provide a basis for donor interventions and as a vehicle for mobilizing funds for projects developed by the STDF.

*(iv) Continued grant financing for projects*

41. The STDF will continue to fund technical cooperation activities which:

- address underlying issues of SPS capacity building in beneficiary countries (in particular in LDCs or OLIEs, or on a regional basis), ideally through innovative, preventative and / or pilot projects which may be replicated by other donors; and
- which aim to address gaps in SPS information, training materials or which aim to improve co-ordination among SPS technical co-operation providers through collaborative projects.

42. Greater concentration will be given to ensure that eligibility criteria are clear and precise for applicants and that funding applications reflect the strategic objectives of the Facility.<sup>16</sup> In addition, the Secretariat will play a greater role in the preliminary review of projects. This will be accompanied by greater input from partners in scrutiny of the technical content of projects before they reach the STDF Working Group. Furthermore, each project should include an evaluation plan.

43. The STDF will continue to provide grant financing up to normally a maximum of US\$600,000 for project implementation. No minimum limit applies on the size of the projects funded, although projects will preferably be in the range of US\$150,000 and US\$600,000. Beneficiaries will continue to be required to meet part of the cost of the implementation of projects either through financial or in-kind contributions. Applications are particularly encouraged from organizations in LDCs and OLIEs, or for projects which tackle SPS issues through a regional approach.

44. The operational rules accompanying the medium term strategy provide for a more clearly defined role for partners and third parties with regard to the implementation of projects, and in particular the oversight of projects within the scope of their mandates. The partners are singularly qualified to assist developing countries in dealing with relevant international standards, guidelines and recommendations for food safety, animal and plant health.

*(v) Strengthening the STDF Secretariat*

45. To implement this programme, the STDF Secretariat will need to be strengthened, particularly in relation to the enhanced focus on dissemination and co-ordination of SPS-related technical co-operation. The table below provides an overview of the Secretariat's tasks and activities.

46. Currently, the STDF Secretariat is staffed by two full-time and one half-time professional. To implement this strategy, progressive expansion to a core Secretariat team of six persons is estimated as necessary. The team would comprise five professional staff and one administrator. Employment of staff would be according to WTO staffing and recruitment procedures and staff would be bound by WTO rules and personnel policies. Employment of additional staff would be incremental, with regular reviews by the STDF Working Group as staff numbers increase to reassess the need for

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<sup>16</sup> This strategy is accompanied by updated operational rules for the STDF in document STDF 139.

additional people. This assessment would be based on an evaluation of the success of the STDF in meeting its mandate of coordination, advice, facilitation and project funding, and in progressing from its current collection of projects into a programme.

**Table 1: Overview of Secretariat tasks and activities**

<b>Task</b>	<b>Activities</b>
<b>Co-ordination</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maintenance of close contacts with multilateral, regional and bilateral SPS-related co-operation programmes;</li> <li>• Information collection on technical co-operation activities of bilateral, regional and multilateral donors and developing countries and updating the joint WTO/OECD Trade Capacity Building Database on technical co-operation with respect to SPS activities;</li> <li>• Annual reporting on SPS-related technical co-operation flows;</li> <li>• Organization of regional consultations between donors, beneficiaries and regional organizations on technical co-operation priorities and funding mechanisms and commissioning of research on SPS-related aid effectiveness; and</li> <li>• Dissemination through the SPS Committee, OECD Development Assistance Committee and other relevant fora.</li> </ul>
<b>Advice</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Analysis of information collected including research commissioned to identify good practice in the provision and receipt of SPS-related technical co-operation;</li> <li>• Development of a compendium on funding programmes for SPS related technical co-operation;</li> <li>• Provision of tools to donors and beneficiaries on the evaluation of technical co-operation needs and information on good practice in the delivery of technical co-operation.</li> </ul>
<b>Facilitation</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Funding project preparation grants to survey SPS technical co-operation needs and develop indicative project terms of reference;</li> <li>• Matching of SPS requests with funding sources;</li> <li>• Exploiting synergies with other funding mechanisms or initiatives, e.g. Integrated Framework, Aid For Trade, JITAP, etc.</li> </ul>
<b>Project funding</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Development of capacity evaluation and planning tools, including the need for and implications of international standards and their application;</li> <li>• Capacity building for public and private organizations, notably related to market access; and</li> <li>• Information sharing activities on international standards and implementation strategies at national level.</li> </ul>

**Table 2: Overview of Secretariat staffing needs and related costs**

<b>Source of funding</b>	<b>Title and Responsibilities</b>
WTO regular budget	<b>STDF Secretary.</b> Overall programme oversight and day to day management, co-ordination of STDF work with SPS Committee and WTO technical co-operation activities.
STDF	<b>Economic Affairs Officer.</b> Co-ordination activities, including contact with donors, organization of regional consultations (and commissioning of related research), strategy development, on-site visits, organization and dissemination of reporting templates and collation of resultant information, co-operation with other funding initiatives e.g. IF or Aid for Trade, development and implementation of marketing strategy, collection of training materials, update of STDF website, update documents for the SPS Committee.
STDF	<b>Economic Affairs Officer.</b> Scrutiny of funding applications, project preparation grant development and implementation, project implementation oversight, including contracting projects, agreeing project terms of reference, verifying project implementation, collection of training materials, update of STDF website, update documents for the SPS Committee.
STDF	<b>Junior Economic Affairs Officer.</b> Co-ordination of activities with the STDF, IF and Aid for Trade, in particular with the DTIS process and follow-up project preparation grants and projects
STDF	<b>Junior Economic Affairs Officer.</b> Scrutiny of funding applications, organization of regional consultations, maintenance of contacts with donors, compilation and update of WTO/OECD Trade Capacity Building Database, technical co-operation compendium, project and project preparation grant contracting, assistance with collection of training materials, update of STDF website, update documents for the SPS Committee
STDF	<b>Administrative assistant.</b> Administrative support to the work of the Secretariat.
	<b>5 staff funded directly from the STDF</b>

47. Further to additional staffing costs, other costs would be charged directly to the STDF in relation to implementation of the STDF programme as outlined in Table 1. These costs are presented in Table 3.

**Table 3: Other budgetary items to be charged directly to the STDF**

Expense	Nature of Expense
Donor meetings	Travel to meet with donors and recipients active in the SPS area.
Regional technical co-operation consultations	Regional technical co-operation consultations (2 per year including 10 countries and four experts per country) and
Research on technical co-operation effectiveness	Contracting of research on SPS implementation for discussion at regional technical consultations
Costs related to maintenance of the WTO/OECD Trade Capacity Building Database	Additional data uploading and programming requirements to ensure that SPS-related technical co-operation is properly reported on the WTO/OECD Trade Capacity Building Database

(vi) *Secure sustained funding*

48. The STDF is currently unable to implement projects approved by the STDF Working Group. Demand for funding has outstripped the availability of funds in the Facility. Furthermore, the demand for project funding shows no sign of abating.

49. A total of 11 donors have contributed funds to the STDF.<sup>17</sup> Of these 11 donors, four have entered into formal multi-annual funding commitments. Two other donors have renewed in 2006 contributions first made in 2005. Figure 1 in paragraph 14 illustrates the funding situation for the STDF in November 2006.

50. To fulfil the aims of the STDF and implement the work programme set out above, there is a fundamental need for predictable and sustainable funding over the medium term strategy implementation period (2007-11), ideally in the form of multi-annual commitments. To implement the Medium Term Strategy, a target level of annual funding of US\$5 million is required. At present, the Facility is approximately US\$3.5 million short of achieving this target in 2007.

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<sup>17</sup> This total does not include contributions from the World Bank and the WTO.