

STDF Newsletter

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Dear readers,

Ownership is a basic requirement to make aid more effective. In practice, however, beneficiaries of SPS assistance often play a limited role in selecting and implementing projects, for instance

due to lack of skills to assess needs and design projects. To enhance the capacity of beneficiaries for project formulation, the Enhanced Integrated Framework started a series of training workshops in Least-Developed Countries in close collaboration with the STDF. One of the main outputs of this work will be a training module on project design that can be used to support the development of SPS-related projects. To this end, a revised version of STDF's publication on SPS-related capacity evaluation tools is also available.

In March this year, the STDF Working Group discussed the results of a survey on the development of a new STDF strategy and work programme for 2012 and beyond. Members generally agreed on the importance of the STDF as a knowledge platform to disseminate good practice. While some modifications are to be made in terms of its activities and structure, it was generally concluded from the survey and the discussion that the existing STDF system works well. I look forward to inform you on further progress in the following newsletter.

Melvin Spreij
STDF Secretary

The STDF is supported by:
Australia; Canada; Denmark;
the European Union;
Finland; Germany; Ireland;
Japan; the Netherlands;
Norway; Sweden;
Switzerland; Separate
Customs Territory of Taiwan,
PKM; and the United States.



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The STDF is a joint initiative of the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations, the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE), the World Bank, the World Health Organization (WHO) and the World Trade Organization (WTO). Other participating organizations include the International Trade Centre (ITC), the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) and the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO).

STDF ACTIVITIES

Use of Multi Criteria Decision Analysis (MCDA) to Identify Priorities for SPS Capacity Building

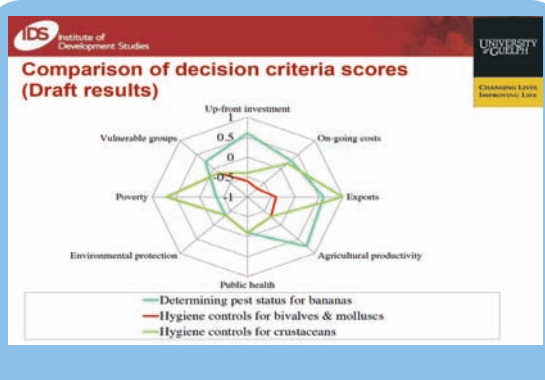
Building on the STDF workshop on the use of economic analysis methodologies to inform SPS decision-making (Geneva, 30 October 2009), the STDF initiated work to assist countries to use Multi Criteria Decision Analysis (MCDA) to inform SPS decision-making. In this context, a draft MCDA guide book was developed and is now being applied in selected countries.

The draft MCDA guide book was used for the first time in Mozambique in April 2011. As part of this work, national stakeholders (mainly from government agencies and academia) with an interest in food safety, animal and plant health, trade, and export promotion came together for a one day workshop on 13 April to identify SPS capacity building options ("investments") to be considered, as well as decision criteria and weights to set priorities between the identified options. After the workshop, outstanding data was collected and detailed "information cards" produced for each of the eleven capacity building options. This data and information was used to run the MCDA analysis, which ranked the identified priorities for SPS capacity building. The preliminary findings were presented to representatives of government agencies and development partners at a meeting at the FAO Office in Maputo on 18 April, and a draft report is under preparation. In addition to ranking identified SPS capacity building options, the work in Mozambique demonstrated the usefulness of the MCDA approach to facilitate an open discussion about SPS capacity building needs.

Efforts are underway to apply the MCDA approach in Zambia in early July 2011, and additional applications are planned in Latin America and Asia, following a review of the initial applications by the STDF Working Group. The MCDA guide book will be improved and finalized in 2012 based on practical experiences from the country level.



Workshop participants



Multi-criteria decision analysis is a relatively new approach which can be used to examine and prioritize different SPS capacity building options, based on a wide range of agreed decision criteria. These criteria (e.g. value of exports, impact on small-scale producers, improvements in domestic public health and/or agricultural productivity, etc.) are not necessarily measured, or even measurable, using the same metrics. MCDA provides a structured way of collecting and assembling data, and a process to derive a numerical prioritization of capacity building options, based on the active participation of concerned public and private sector stakeholders.

Regional workshop to present the MCDA approach

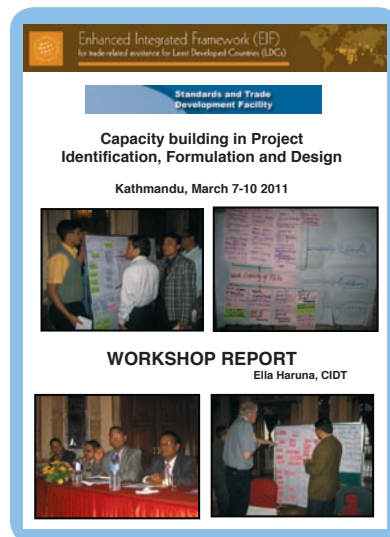
A regional STDF workshop to present the MCDA approach and draft guide book, as well as the experiences of the applications in Mozambique and Zambia, will take place from 16 to 17 August 2011 in Johannesburg, South Africa. For more information, contact: STDFSecretariat@wto.org

STDF ACTIVITIES

Joint STDF/EIF training on project design in Nepal

The EIF and STDF organized a workshop on project design (logical frameworks) in Kathmandu, Nepal from 7 to 10 March 2011, in collaboration with the Centre for International Development and Training (CIDT) at the University of Wolverhampton, UK. A total of 26 participants attended the workshop including representatives of the Ministry of Commerce and Supplies (MoCS), the Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives (MoAC), the private sector (ginger and honey producers/exporters and the Agro Enterprise Centre of the Nepalese Chamber of Commerce and Industry), the EIF Donor Facilitator in Nepal (GIZ) and FAO. During the training, participants developed their own logical frameworks for selected project concepts, which will form the basis of project applications to be submitted to the EIF, STDF and/or other donors. The participants, as well as senior officials from the two ministries involved, expressed appreciation for the practical skills conveyed and underlined the value of the workshop in enhancing capacity for project formulation.

The workshop in Nepal was the first in a series of pilot workshops, which are being organized as part of an EIF Capacity-Building Programme for EIF National Implementation Units. Similar workshops are planned in Central African Republic (CAR) and Rwanda.



Building Phytosanitary Capacity

The STDF organized a well-attended side event on phytosanitary capacity building options on 16 March 2011 in Rome, Italy, on the margins of the 6th Session of the Commission on Phytosanitary Measures (CPM). The STDF presented its current work in relation to phytosanitary capacity building and facilitated discussions among participants. In a complementary presentation, the Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC) briefed participants about the results of a successful STDF-funded project in the Pacific, allowing all Pacific Island countries to apply the IPPC Phytosanitary Capacity Evaluation tool (STDF/PG/133). Three other side-events, on the margins of the CPM, also provided information on STDF-funded projects: (i) presentation by CABI Southeast and East Asia (CABI-SEA) on pest risk management; (ii) presentation by the Kenya Plant Health Inspectorate Services (KEPHIS) on its Centre for Phytosanitary Excellence (COPE); and (iii) presentation by the African Union Inter-African Phytosanitary Council (AU/IAPSC) on progress made in the development of a phytosanitary capacity building strategy for Africa.

STDF Film & STDF Website Available in New Languages



The STDF Film *"Trading Safely: Protecting Health, Promoting Development"* is available in three new languages: Arabic, Chinese and Russian. The DVD includes both the short version (8 minutes) and original version (30 minutes) of the STDF Film. Individuals interested in receiving copies of the STDF Film in the new language versions are encouraged to contact the STDF Secretariat. The new language versions will soon be available on the [STDF website](#).

The STDF website is available in two new languages: [French](#) and [Spanish](#).

STDF ACTIVITIES

Improving shea and cashew nut production in Benin

The Centre of Agricultural Research of Agonkanmey, Benin (CRA- Agonkanmey) recently completed the implementation of an STDF-funded project aiming to help operators acquire the necessary skills to implement good agricultural practices to overcome problems related to mycotoxin contamination in shea and cashew nut production in Benin. During the project, over 300 farmers and other key stakeholders were trained on good production and processing practices of shea and cashew nuts and were provided with manuals and other training materials to further disseminate and share the acquired knowledge. A set of technical documents ranging from didactic manuals and posters explaining the various critical steps in production and processing to more sophisticated technical papers were elaborated as part of project outputs. In addition, the project provided a thorough analysis of the socio-economic and technological aspects of value chains for shea and cashew nuts.



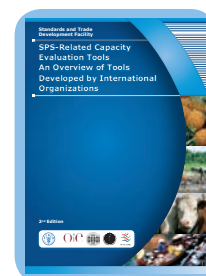
The project benefited from the expertise of various collaborators namely: Programme Technologie Agricole et Alimentaire/Institut National des Recherches Agricoles du Bénin (PTAA/INRAB); International Institute for Tropical Agriculture (IITA-Benin); and Agence Béninoise de Normalisation (ABeNOR), as well as FAO's supervisory role. For more information, see: <http://www.standardsfacility.org/PGProStat.htm>

STDF Scoping Study - SPS Coordination Mechanisms in Africa

The STDF funded the preparation of a scoping study which analyses existing SPS coordination mechanisms in a number of countries in Africa and presents a set of practical guidelines to enhance national-level SPS coordination. This study, finalized by the UK-based Natural Resources Institute (NRI), will shortly be available at: <http://www.standardsfacility.org/IROthers.htm>

STDF Publication on SPS Capacity Evaluation – Second Edition

The STDF released a second edition of its publication *“SPS-Related Capacity Evaluation Tools: An Overview of Tools Developed by International Organizations”*. Initially published in February 2009, this publication provides up-to-date information on sector-specific and cross-cutting tools to assess SPS capacity developed by international organizations. This publication will shortly be available on the [STDF website](#).



New STDF PPGs and Projects

The STDF Working Group approved two projects and three project preparation grants (PPGs) in March 2011:

- STDF/PG/328: Beyond Compliance: Integrated Systems Approach for Pest Risk Management in Southeast Asia
- STDF/PG/350: Global Phytosanitary Manuals, Standard Operating Procedures and Training Kits
- STDF/PPG/343: Establishment of a National Cinnamon Training Academy (NCTA) for Cinnamon Processors in the Southern Province (Sri Lanka)
- STDF/PPG/344: Establishment of a Regional Food Inspectors School in Central America
- STDF/PPG/345: Project for Feed Safety Regulations in Latin America and Caribbean

Next deadline for STDF funding applications

- Friday, 22 July 2011

If you are interested in applying for STDF funding please read the Guidance Note for Applicants and complete the Application forms available at: <http://www.standardsfacility.org/FDAppForms.htm>



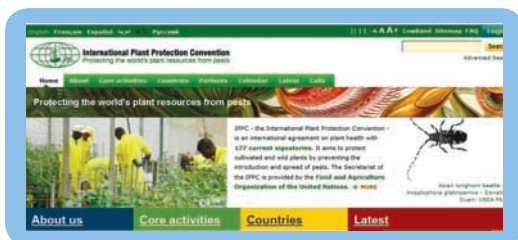
ACTIVITIES OF STDF PARTNERS

6th Session of the Commission on Phytosanitary Measures

The Commission on Phytosanitary Measures (CPM) held its sixth meeting in Rome on 14-18 March 2011. Three International Standards for Phytosanitary Measures (ISPMs) were adopted by the CPM: (i) a revision of ISPM 7 Phytosanitary certification system; (ii) a revision of ISPM 12 Phytosanitary certificates; and (iii) an Appendix to ISPM 26:2006 Establishment of pest free areas for fruit flies (*Tephritidae*): Fruit fly trapping. Three annexes to ISPM 28:2007 Phytosanitary treatments for regulated pests were also adopted by the CPM: (i) Irradiation treatment for *Cylas formicarius elegantulus*; (ii) Irradiation treatment for *Euscepes postfasciatus*; and (iii) Irradiation treatment for *Ceratitis capitata*. The CPM discussed the concept of aquatic plants and whether they were covered under the scope of the IPPC. The CPM also considered the FAO review of all Article XIV Bodies (which includes IPPC) with respect to their operational procedures. High priority areas for future CPM work were identified: standards on sea containers, air containers and garbage. The total number of contracting parties to the IPPC has now reached 177, with the adherence to the Convention of five new contracting parties in the past year: Benin, Kazakhstan, Mongolia, Singapore and Tajikistan.



IPPC Expert Working Group on Phytosanitary Capacity Building



The STDF participated in the Second Meeting of the Expert Working Group on Phytosanitary Capacity Building held on 23-27 May 2011 in Montego Bay, Jamaica. The meeting reviewed and refined the phytosanitary capacity development operational plan with a view to assisting the IPPC Secretariat with developing national phytosanitary capacity. For more information, please visit: <http://ippc.int/>

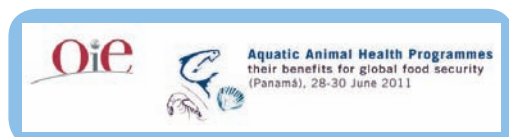
Aid for Trade Third Global Review 2011

The Third Global Aid for Trade Review will be hosted in Geneva, Switzerland on 18-19 July 2011. Previous Global Reviews (2007 and 2009) demonstrated that Aid for Trade is making progress and that partner countries are making headway in mainstreaming trade in their national and regional development strategies. The focus of the Third Review will be on outcomes and impact. Case stories submitted to the WTO and OECD in January 2011 will provide an important source of information for the Third Review. The STDF submitted three case stories on: (i) public-private partnerships (PPPs) in support of SPS capacity; (ii) SPS indicators to measure the performance of national SPS systems; and (iii) economic analysis to inform SPS decision-making. The STDF also prepared a background note on the challenges faced by LDCs in meeting SPS standards in the fisheries sector, based on desk research and case stories submitted by the Ministry of Commerce in Benin and TradeMark Southern Africa. For more information on the Global Review, please see: http://www.wto.org/english/tratop_e/devel_e/a4t_e/global_review11_e.htm. The STDF documents can be downloaded at: <http://www.standardsfacility.org/en/TAidForTrade.htm>.



ACTIVITIES OF STDF PARTNERS

OIE Global Conference on Aquatic Animal Health

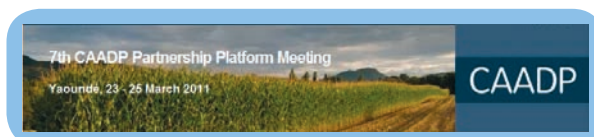


The OIE will hold its Global Conference on “*Aquatic Animal Health Programmes: Their Benefits for Global Food Security*” in Panama on 28-30 June 2011. This conference will highlight the contribution of aquatic animal health programmes to improving productivity and consequently the availability of

high quality protein and other food, particularly to people in developing countries. In addition, it will seek to raise awareness of the role of Aquatic Animal Health Services and, as appropriate, Veterinary Services, in assuring the production of aquaculture products that are safe for human consumption and appropriately certified to meet international trade requirements. For more information, please visit: http://www.oie.int/eng/A_aquatic/home.htm

7th CAADP Partnership Platform Meeting

On March 23, as part of the 7th Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Program (CAADP) Partnership Platform meeting, Meridian Institute, the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, and the African Union Commission hosted a side event on Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) Issues and the proposed formation of a Partnership for Aflatoxin Control in Africa (PACA). The meeting was well-attended by a broad range of participants from African governments, farmers organizations, private sector, African Union Commission, Regional Economic Communities, and donors. Participants in the meeting generally supported incorporating (“mainstreaming”) broader sanitary and phytosanitary issues into the CAADP framework. The [final communiqué](#) from the 7th CAADP PP outlines the outcomes and next steps from the side event, including the intention to form a CAADP Working Group on SPS issues. The full discussion summary from the side event, as well as presentations, can also be viewed at: http://www.merid.org/aflatoxinpartnership/CAADP_PP.aspx



Cocoa producing African countries seeking to enhance compliance with pesticide residues requirement

The International Cocoa Organization (ICCO), in collaboration with the Government of Cameroon, will organize a regional workshop on “*SPS Capacity Building in Africa to Mitigate the Harmful Effects of Pesticide Residues in Cocoa and to Maintain Market Access*” on 7-10 June 2011, in Yaoundé, Cameroon. This workshop will mark the formal launch of the project of the same name, partly funded by the STDF and EDES/COLEACP, and formulated on the basis of the findings of a STDF-funded study which identified the main issues to be addressed in strengthening SPS capacity in cocoa production (STDF/PG/298). The



workshop, which will gather a number of public and private stakeholders from five African countries (Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, Nigeria and Togo) as well as regional and international organizations, will mainly aim to: (i) raise awareness on international SPS standards and regulations applied by major food importing markets and their impact on cocoa trade; and (ii) review the constraints faced by the stakeholders along the cocoa supply chain in meeting international SPS requirements

and the measures proposed in the project to address them. Issues related to co-ordination of regional actions to prevent cross border trade of illegal pesticides will be discussed at the workshop in order to leverage SPS capacity building activities planned in the project. For more information, please visit: <http://www.icco.org> and www.standardsfacility.org.

ACTIVITIES OF STDF PARTNERS

WTO Special Workshop on SPS Coordination at National and Regional Levels

The WTO Secretariat will hold a special workshop on SPS Coordination at National and Regional Levels, in Geneva, Switzerland on 17 October 2011. The objective of this workshop is to bring together officials responsible for participation in and implementation of the SPS Agreement, Codex, IPPC and/or OIE for an in depth discussion, at a technical level, on best practices in coordination at national and regional levels. Delegates to the SPS Committee will have the opportunity to discuss how to improve coordination at the national and regional levels between their involvement in the work of the three Sisters, the SPS Committee and WTO more generally. Representatives of the three Sisters will be invited to share their experiences on coherence of national and regional positions at the standard-setting bodies and the SPS Committee. The STDF will present the results of two studies: (i) Regional SPS Frameworks and Strategies in Africa¹; and (ii) Scoping Study on National SPS Coordination Mechanisms in Africa (ongoing work).

WTO SPS regional and national seminars

The WTO is jointly collaborating with the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) to organize a regional SPS workshop for the Caribbean, scheduled to be held in Barbados in July 2011.



The WTO participated in national seminars on the SPS and/or TBT Agreements organized by the governments of Colombia (April

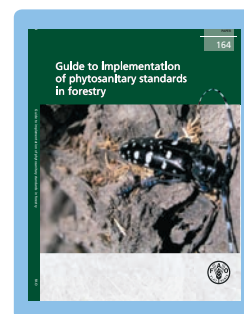
2011), Iran (June 2011) and Uganda (June 2011). These seminars were attended by a mix of government officials (representing various Ministries), private sector entities as well as producer and exporter associations. Upcoming national seminars are scheduled for: Chinese Taipei and Nicaragua in September 2011. For more information on WTO's technical assistance programme in the SPS area, please see WTO document [G/SPS/GEN/997/Rev.1](#) or contact Javier Ocampo at the WTO (javier.ocampo@wto.org).

Developing SPS-related legal framework in Laos

An agreement on “*Technical Assistance for the Development of Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS)-related Legal Framework*” was recently signed by the Foreign Trade Policy Department, Ministry of Industry and Commerce and FAO in Laos. Under this agreement, FAO in Laos will host a FAO legal officer for 12 months to support the development of WTO SPS-related legislation in the Lao PDR, financed through the Multi-Donor Trade Development Facility (TDF), executed by the Ministry of Industry and Commerce. For more information, please see: <http://www.fao.org>

FAO Guide to the Implementation of Phytosanitary Standards in Forestry

The FAO Forest Assessment, Management and Conservation Division (FOM) published its “*Guide to the Implementation of Phytosanitary Standards in Forestry*.” This publication is available at: <http://www.fao.org/docrep/013/i2080e/i2080e.pdf>



GFSI Newsletter: April 2011 Issue



The April 2011 issue of the [Global Food Safety Initiative \(GFSI\) Newsletter](#) is now available. The newsletter provides information on recent and future GFSI presentations around the world, including the 2011 Global Food Safety Conference held in London from 16-18 February. The next Global Food Safety Conference will take place

in Orlando from 15-17 February 2012.

¹http://www.standardsfacility.org/Files/Publications/STDF_Regional_SPS_Strategies_in_Africa.pdf

FORTHCOMING SPS EVENTS & OTHER NEWS

June 2011

7-10 June, Yaoundé, Cameroon: ICCO Regional Workshop on "SPS Capacity Building in Africa to Mitigate the Harmful Effects of Pesticide Residues in Cocoa and to Maintain Market Access"

12-15 June, Barcelona, Spain: World Veterinary Association - 6th International Symposium on Emerging and Re-emerging Pig Diseases

23-24 June, Zambia: COMESA SPS Workshop

27 June, Geneva, Switzerland: STDF Working Group

28-30 June, Panama: OIE Global Conference on "Aquatic Animal Health Programmes: Their Benefits for Global Food Security"

29-30 June, Geneva, Switzerland: WTO SPS Committee

July 2011

4-9 July, Geneva, Switzerland: 34th Session of the Codex Alimentarius Commission

5-7 July, Zambia: STDF Pilot Testing Workshop on the Use of Economic Analysis to inform SPS Decision-Making

18-19 July, Geneva, Switzerland: Third Global Aid for Trade Review

26-29 July, Barbados: WTO Regional SPS Workshop for the Caribbean

August 2011

16-17 August, Johannesburg, South Africa: STDF Regional Workshop on the MCDA Pilot Testing Work in Africa

September 2011

7-9 September, Incheon-Seoul, Republic of Korea: OIE Global Conference on Rabies Control: Towards Sustainable Prevention at the Source

October 2011

10-14 October, Cape Town, South Africa: World Veterinary Association - 30th World Veterinary Congress 2011

17 October, Geneva, Switzerland: WTO Workshop on SPS Coordination at National and Regional Levels

19-20 October, Geneva Switzerland: WTO SPS Committee Meeting

21 October, Geneva, Switzerland: STDF Working Group Meeting

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EC DG Trade's SPS News

http://trade.ec.europa.eu/doclib/cfm/doclib_results.cfm?key=sps%20newsletter

FAO's Food Safety and Quality Update eNewsletter

www.fao.org/ag/agn/agns/news_en.asp

FAO-BiotechNews

www.fao.org/biotech/

IPC's Agritrade Forum Newsletter

www.agritrade.org/Publications/#newsletter

ISEAL Gazette

www.isealliance.org

ITC Competitiveness Newsletter

www.intracen.org/e-trade/

OIE bulletin

www.oie.int/eng/publicat/en_bulletins.htm

PiP Programme newsletter

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STDF e-list

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