



**Standards and Trade
Development Facility**

**MOBILIZING AID FOR TRADE
FOR SPS-RELATED TECHNICAL
COOPERATION IN THE GREATER MEKONG
DELTA SUB-REGION**

**PHNOM PENH, CAMBODIA
21-22 MAY 2008**

PROVISIONAL PROGRAMME

CO-HOSTED BY THE KINGDOM OF CAMBODIA

**THE CAMBODIANA HOTEL
313 SISOWATH QUAY
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OVERVIEW

As part of the Aid for Trade regional review event, the Standards and Trade Development Facility (STDF) held a workshop in Manila, Philippines on 18 September 2007 focusing on issues related to the mobilisation of capacity building resources in the area of food safety, animal and plant health (collectively known as sanitary and phytosanitary or SPS measures). That meeting focused on SPS needs in Cambodia, Lao PDR and Viet Nam.

One strong conclusion emerging from the meeting was that: "Standards are a passport for trade. The ability to control sanitary and phytosanitary (SPS) risk and meet international standards is a key element determining participation of developing countries in the trading system."

The aim of this follow-up event, hosted jointly by the Government of Cambodia, the STDF and the Integrated Framework is to turn the conclusions arising from this first event into tangible outcomes. More specifically, the event will examine the following:

- "Balance sheets" of needs and technical assistance on-going or planned in the area of SPS related technical co-operation. The balance sheets make use of existing capacity evaluations in this area and interviews with donors. As such they are an important tool for co-ordination in this area,
- Identification of priority action area in SPS related technical assistance not met through current or planned assistance (gap analysis), and
- Agree ways to address these outstanding needs through future SPS related assistance

The overall aim will be to clearly identify ways in which SPS priority needs can be addressed by donors, international organizations offering technical assistance in the SPS area or through the STDF itself. Background reports for the workshop can be downloaded at the following webpage: [Standards and Trade Development Facility - Regional Consultations](#)

Day 1

The first day of the workshop will be based around technical discussions on the "balance sheets" and "gap analysis".

The gap analysis examines evaluations of SPS capacity which were undertaken in Cambodia, Lao PDR and Viet Nam, backed up by research work in the region in February and March 2008. The aim is to link these evaluations with an overview of on-going and planned donor assistance in the SPS area. From this analysis any "gaps" where outstanding needs are not being met through SPS-related assistance will be identified. During the fieldwork, beneficiaries were asked to prioritize outstanding needs. This prioritization should assist matching resources to these areas of on-going need. From the networking session in the afternoon of the first day, a series of actions to assist in matching needs with future assistance should emerge.

Day 2

The second day of the workshop will focus on priority action areas and actions needed to address those needs. Discussion will also take place on good practice in the area of SPS-related technical assistance and future STDF research plans on this topic. The aim of the workshop is to agree actions necessary to address these priority needs.

Day 1 – 21 MAY

VALIDATING PRIORITIES FOR FUTURE SPS TECHNICAL COOPERATION

08.00 Registration

08.30 Welcome address

H..E. Mr. Cham Prasidh, Senior Minister and Minister of Commerce

08.45 Overview of balance sheets of needs and priorities for further action

- Presentation of results by country and for the region Mr Kees van der Meer , Consultant

10.00 Coffee break

10.15 Comments on balance sheets of needs and priorities

- Cambodia
- Lao PDR
- Viet Nam
- Regional priorities – ASEAN
- Donors
- International organizations

12.15 Lunch

13.00 Networking session on SPS priorities

- The national and regional balance sheets identify various priority actions for SPS-related technical assistance. The aim of this networking session would be to allow informal discussion of the priority areas between participants (national representatives, regional and international organizations and donor representatives). Each delegation would be given a physical space within the meeting room around which to hold discussions. Within the Cambodian, Laotian and Vietnamese delegations, a focal point would be asked to report back on the outcome of discussions at the start of day 2.
- Coffee will be provided during the session.

16.45 Wrap-up session

- Initial feedback from networking session
- Conclusions from day 1
- Outline of work programme for day 2

17.15 Close

Day 2 – 22 MAY

HOW TO ADDRESS SPS PRIORITY ACTION AREAS

09.00 Discussion of on-going and planned assistance

- Presentation of overview of donor assistance (Ms Laura Igancio, Consultant)
- Reactions from donors and international organizations

10.00 Presentations on future priority SPS actions

- Cambodia
- Lao PDR
- Viet Nam
- Regional priorities

11.00 Coffee break

12.45 Lunch

14.00 Good practice in the provision of SPS-related technical assistance

- Overview of planned research and discussion of good practice considerations (Kenza Le Mentec, STDF Secretariat)
- Discussion

15.30 Coffee

15.45 Final wrap-up session

- Identification of next steps
- Presentation of conclusions

16.15 Close