Strengthening the capacity of government officials responsible for food safety, animal and plant health, and agricultural trade in Nepal to effectively implement SPS measures and related trade obligations

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Outline

- Background of the project
- Project objectives
- Expected outputs
- Proposed activities
- In-country and overseas training programmes
- Project management
- Budget
- Workplan

Background

- Nepal's WTO membership in 2004
- Difficulties in complying with the requirements under the SPS agreement
- Weak SPS control regime
 - Import export
 - Domestic market
- Increasing requirements from importing countries
- Need for strengthening SPS capacity constraints

Project preparation mission (1)

- Inadequate knowledge and skills among front-line officers for inspection, monitoring and certification of food and agricultural products
- Limited ability to monitor, manage and report data on plant pests and animal diseases
- Weak institutional capacities
- Inability to control plant and animal pests and diseases

Project preparation mission (2)

- Problems in securing int. recognition of disease free areas for production
- Limited knowledge about risk analysis and its application
- Inadequate knowledge about legislation and procedures for enforcement and compliance
- Limited knowledge and practical skills in risk analysis
- Lack of institutional capacity to engage in market access negotiations, provide data for risk assessment and to exercise rights and obligations under the SPS agreement

Overall objective

 To reduce food safety risks for consumers in Nepal, to enhance the protection of animals and plants and promote economic development through increased food and agricultural exports that meet international SPS requirements

Specific objectives

1. To equip frontline officers responsible for monitoring and enforcing SPS measures on the ground with the knowledge and practical skills to effectively carry out testing, inspection, certification and approval procedures, and quarantine treatments.

Specific objectives

2. To enhance the technical and scientific knowledge and skills of selected midlevel officers to perform specialized tasks necessary for the implementation of SPS measures (e.g. risk assessment, determining appropriate levels of protection, product recall and appeal, setting and monitoring pesticide residue levels, etc.).

Specific objectives

3. To improve the ability of the SPS Enquiry Point and Notification Authority to proactively and effectively carry out their roles and responsibilities.

Project outputs (1)

- A comprehensive SPS training programme for newly recruited staff or refresher training for existing staff
- A package of SPS training material, user guidelines and manuals
- A core group of master trainers covering food safety, animal and plant health and life, and agricultural trade

Project outputs (2)

- More than 200 food and veterinary inspectors, quality control officers, animal quarantine officers and plant protection and quarantine officers trained in SPS measures
- Improved border inspection posts
- Trained staff at the SPS Enquiry Point and Notification Authority
- A model training programme and supporting material for practical training on SPS implementation

Proposed activities (1)

- Review and finalize the content of incountry training programmes
- Adapt relevant training materials, guidelines and manuals to meet national needs and develop supplementary materials as required
- Select and train a core group of master trainers in food safety, animal and plant health and agricultural trade (20-30 persons)

Proposed activities (2)

- Review the needs for overseas training and study visits to complement in-country training
- Select mid-level sector experts to attend overseas training (App. 12 persons)
- Implement in-country training courses
- Evaluate training programme

In-country training programme

- Sector specific training in the context of the SPS Agreement
 - Food safety (Food inspectors, SPS Enquiry point)
 - Plant health (Plant protection and quarantine officers)
 - Animal health (Veterinary officials, inspectors and quality control officers)
- Lecturers
 - International experts
 - National trained trainers

Training on food safety

- ToT inspection and certification (12)
- Introductory training on food safety, quality and international trade (6)
- Risk-based food inspection and modern inspection techniques (10)
- Enforcement of food legislation (6)
- Certification of food imports and exports (6)

Training on plant health (1)

- ToT plant health (12)
- Methyl bromide fumigation (6)
- Plant health inspection and quarantine (6)
- Specialized skills for pest risk analysis (8)
- Specialized skills for establishment of pest free areas (15)

Training on plant health (2)

- Pest surveillance and monitoring (6)
- Pest diagnosis and handling (10)
- Phytosanitary certification and administrative procedures (5)

Training on animal health (1)

- ToT Veterinary inspection and quarantine (12)
- Essentials of veterinary inspection and quarantine (10)
- Animal health in production, transportation and slaughterhouses (6)
- Specialized skills for veterinary inspection and quarantine (10)

Training on animal health (2)

- Import / export certification of animals and animal products (6)
- Enforcement and compliance (3)
- Animal health and risk analysis (12)

Overseas training

Training Needs	Participants	Budget	Total
			estimated cost (US\$)
Plant health	DOA (3)	Average 2,500 per person per week	50,000
Food safety	DFTQC (4)	Average of 20 person weeks (to	
Agricultural trade	WTO Section (2)	be allocated among	
Animal health	DLS (3)	12 persons)	

Project management

- Focal point
 - Agribusiness Promotion and Statistics Division (MoAC)
- Project Steering Committee (PSC)
- FAO-Nepal: Project Coordinator
- FAO-RAP: Technical support

Project review and reporting

- Inception report
- Progress reports
- External evaluation

Inputs and comments from PSC are appreciated!

Budget

Description	Budget PY1	Budget PY2	Total Budget US\$
Consultants			
International experts (food safety, animal health, plant health) 3 persons, 28 days each	25,200		25,200
National consultant	7,500	7,500	15,000
Contracts			
Translation	2,500	2,500	5,000
Travel			
International experts (travel and DSA)	17,400		17,400
Backstopping missions	3,400	3,400	6,800
Training			
National workshops to prepare for in-country training	16,000		16,000
Overseas training for mid-level officers	50,000		50,000
In-country training	72,000	108,000	180,000
Expendable Equipment			
Printing of training material	3,500	2,000	5,500
Training materials and supplies	3,500	2,500	6,000
Non-Expendable equipment			
Training equipment	5,500		5,500
Technical Support Services			
Backstopping support (FAO RAP)	5,625	1,875	7,500
General Operating Expenses			
Telecommunication, fuel, vehicle hire etc.	5,000	3,000	8,000
TOTAL PROJECT COSTS	217,125	130,775	347,900

Workplan phase 1

Output - Activity	Year l										Year 2													
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Phase 1																		Г						
First Backstopping mission																								
Inception report																		Г						
Select master trainers																		Г						П
Missions of international sector experts (3)																		Г						
Review and finalise in-country training programme (international sector experts in collaboration with selected trainers)																								
Adapt existing training materials, guidelines, manuals, etc.																								
Organize workshops to train master trainers																								
Overseas training for selected mid-level officials (including staff of SPS Enquiry Point and Notification Authority)																								
Second Backstopping mission (after 6 months)																								
Project progress report No. 1																								

Workplan phase 2

Output - Activity	Year l											Year 2													
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	
Phase 2			Г																						
Organize and deliver in-country training programme, and monitor results																									
Third Backstopping mission (after 12 months)																									
Project progress report No. 2																									
Fourth backstopping mission (after 18 months)																									
Project progress report No. 3 (after 18 months of implementation)																									
Incorporate changes into training programme based on review and finalise content and programme for refresher training to be carried out by MoAC as a follow-up to the project																									
Final report on project																									
Independent ex-post evaluation																									

Next steps

- Recruit international experts
 - FAO-RAP and collaboration with FAO-Nepal and PSC
- Review and finalize in-country training programme
- Select master trainers and conduct training of trainers
- Assess needs for overseas training

Thank you for your attention

Questions and comments?