United Nations Conference on Trade and Development

A MODEL FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF A PUBLIC / PRIVATE SAFETY CONTROL SYSTEM FOR THE HORTICULTURAL SECTOR IN GUINEA, WEST AFRICA

STDF/SPS PROJECT No. 65 REPORT

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Executive Summary

Agricultural foods (agrifoods) and commodities trade is of vital importance to low-income developing countries dependent on one or two commodities for their people's livelihoods, export earnings, incomes and domestic savings, and poverty reduction. Despite the progressive liberalization of international trade through tariff reductions over the past 40 years, many developing countries continue to encounter problems in accessing export markets. This is largely due to the panoply of non-tariff measures that are increasingly applied along commodity value chains "from farm to fork". These include complex conformity procedures, food laws and technical regulations, and multiple food safety standards – both public and private – that are being imposed at or behind borders in importing markets. Left unchecked and unmitigated, the proliferation of these non-tariff measures eventually do become trade restricting devices, imposing severe compliance costs along entire global agrifood and commodities supply chains.

Many of the problems faced by developing countries relating to sanitary and phytosanitary (SPS) measures and compliance to food safety standards and quality controls reflect their wider, resource and supply-side constraints. Without technical and financial assistance – from national, regional and international sources – to help curb these bottlenecks at the source (producer's), the opportunities and gains from international trade can neither be assured nor sustained.

Since 2000, UNCTAD has strengthened its work on market-access problems facing developing countries, focusing on SPS measures and on compliance with food safety standards and quality requirements, and divergent food laws and technical regulations. Through its technical cooperation pillar, UNCTAD currently implements trade-related capacity-building projects in a number of developing countries, namely **Guinea**, Mozambique, and Tanzania, and the Pacific island economies of Samoa, Solomon Islands and the Republic of Vanuatu. These projects contribute to increasing the capacity of small- and medium-scale agrifood producers, traders and exporters to address these bottlenecks, including certification to internationally accepted (private) standards, improvements to supply-side infrastructure and services.

Implementation of the **Guinea SPS project**[ii] began November 2005, with generous funding (in full) of US$575,996[iii] from the Standards and Trade Development Facility (STDF) of WTO. Project funding was approved by the STDF Working Party following the completion of a series of events; demand-driven SPS compliance study, follow-up national workshop, and compilation and submission of an STDF grant application to the STDF secretariat on 19 August 2005. The projects' principal objectives are to: assist producers' and exporter associations in Guinea to comply with SPS measures and attain GlobalGAP certification, increase competencies of a pool of national technicians, address market access exigencies and enhance export competitiveness of (pilot) farms through GlobalGAP certification, raise incomes, and reduce poverty.

Operationally, the following project activities have been accomplished: establishment of the National Project Management Unit (NPMU) to monitor the day-to-day implementation of the project at the national level; IT equipment with Internet and e-mail access supplied to the NPMU; Admin. Assistant recruited and placed in NPMU; project website (www.sps-guinee.com) completed (*needs revamping*); creation of a public inspection force of 10 inspectors drawn from key national agencies; 7 training workshops delivered – on SPS, good agricultural practices, good manufacturing

practices, ISO 9000 & 22000, HACCP and GlobalGAP – to key beneficiaries: 3 pilots projects (Cooperative Burquiah, Fabik Cooperative, and Kalo Enterprises - Union des Pommes de Terre) and technicians from the public and private sectors; Cooperative Burquiah – represents over 500 farmers - successfully attained GlobalGAP certification; Kalo Enterprises met 85% of GlobalGAP requirements for certification (*needs support to attain GlobalGAP accreditation*); Fabik Cooperative pulled out of the project due resource and capacity constraints; and key laboratory equipment procurement is being processed – using standard UN procurement procedures - for delivery in Conakry, Guinea, circa March/April 2010.[iv]

Successful implementation of the project is contingent on overcoming these constraints and challenges, which include; project start-up delayed by 2 months as the necessary *modus operandi*, particularly, administration and management were established and fine-tuned both within UNCTAD and with project partners; weak institutional linkages and capacity constraints, communication difficulties with and among national partners, including (i) prolonged the time required to set-up the NPMU, (ii) identification and selection the national project coordinator; and (iii) identification and selection pilot farms as well as national consultants. Most significant of all, is the frequent political upheavals and civic unrest in Conakry which erupted in Dec 2008 and continues to hamper delivery of planned project implementation activities, including the cancellation of two missions as well as the delay in the procurement and delivery of essential laboratory equipment for our key national project partner in Conakry, Guinea.[v]

The key lessons learned during this reporting period, January 2008 -November 2009, are; *first* the project implementation agency (UNCTAD) should be seen as the ***facilitator*** to help deliver project-related activities and attain certain objectives. It should ***not be expected to fix all*** the administration and resource deficiencies of the partnering national agencies through development projects as such. *Second*, at the national level, there is an ardent need for strong political-will and genuine commitment towards attainment of project objectives as well as ownership of outcomes - good or bad, spliced with a willingness to make mistakes, accept compromise solutions and succeed together with the implementing agency, are critical factors for project success. Without this delicate balance, development partners remain unequally yoked, thus giving time and space for 'the blame game' to creep in, sowing seeds of distrust and sprouting unmet expectations. *Third*, and perhaps most important for the Guinea SPS project, is the political risks at the national level, as was the case in Guinea Conakry, which has had a devastating impact on project deliverable as well as project implementation schedules and activities. For future projects in developing countries, particularly in sub-Saharan Africa, political risks as such should be thoroughly scoped and potential solutions factored in at the design phase.

For the Guinea SPS project to fully achieve its initial objectives, it is imperative that the project termination date be extended to **31 June 2010** so that the project implementation agency (UNCTAD) completes the following key activities; procurement and disbursement of laboratory equipment to the Centre d'Étude et de Recherche en Environnement (CERE) laboratory; revamp of the project website; assist Kalo Enterprises attain GlobalGAP certification; conduct an independent review of the project in general, and pilot farms in particular; and design a follow-up project, seek external funding and implement such a project so as to consolidate the gains from the current project, monitor progress on pilot farms, and bring new agrifood farms and producer organizations from Guinea into export trade.

1. *Introduction* - agriculture production and trade, and market access issues in developing countries

Agricultural foods and commodities production and trade still remain the principal driver's of economic growth and sustainable development in many commodity-dependent developing countries (CDDCs). In many of this category of countries, agriculture is the lead economic sector for foreign exchange earnings, livelihoods sustenance and employment, domestic savings, income growth and poverty reduction. At the international scene, globalization and unprecedented levels of trade liberalization have generated phenomenal global wealth and incomes, although the current financial crisis and its deepening recession are expected to dampen these gains. The world commodity boom (2004-mid-2008) – driven by consumer demand and high commodity prices - had increased growth in CDDCs and contributed to global poverty reduction.

Rising incomes in populous, emerging economies (e.g. BRIC – Brazil, Russia, India and China, Asian Tiger economies) have induced dramatic lifestyle changes among the wealthy, well-off consumer's who are increasingly demanding higher quality, healthier, and safer foods delivered on real-time. Consumers' influence had driven significant structural changes in the global supply chains. Consequently, multinational food corporations, beverage manufacturers, retailers and large distributors control almost every aspect of the global food chains from the 'farm to the fork'.

On the flipside of these shifts of tsunami proportions, the food industry is being inundated with rapidly increasing incidences of; rising food– and water-borne diseases; food contamination scares and subsequent recalls, hazardous agents or contaminants, allergens or toxins, Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy (BSE, or "mad cow – disease" in cattle; Avian flu in poultry; melamine in dairy - infant milk - products; salmonella in peanut products; risks associated with genetically modified crops; use of hormones in animals; pesticide contamination; weak traceability and transparency mechanisms; and lax or failed enforcement on compliance with labelling laws and regulations by key players in the food industry, including governments and major food companies.

Add to this, the growing global concerns about the environment, increasing green-house-gas emissions, deforestation, rising costs of food and productive inputs (e.g. energy), and the ardent need to reduce extensive dependency on hydrocarbons for energy with sustainable alternative energy sources (e.g. wind, solar, biofuels) are driving organizations - both public and private - to increasingly implement sustainability and corporate social responsibility agendas in diverse areas along entire commodity supply chains. Many global food and beverage companies are in the forefront of this shift: decisively moving sustainability initiatives from boardroom rhetoric to quantifiable reality in the marketplace. Sustainability initiatives now becoming a 'must have' business imperative being used to rethink and retool business processes, strengthen stakeholder relationships and address environmental and social impacts. In the process, they are able to reduce costs, increase innovation and competitiveness, and improve quality and performance despite budget and return on investment challenges during the current global financial and economic crisis.

2. *Rationale* - UNCTAD's work on agricultural trade-related SPS issues, food quality and safety standards

The above mentioned global trends open up opportunities as well as threats for developing countries, particularly offering market access opportunities in developed-country markets for agrifoods and commodities exports from developing countries. Market access has, indeed, improved over the past 40 years as real tariff rates and quantitative restrictions had fallen in developed economies. However, market access alone is not enough. While it is a necessary condition, alone, it is an insufficient condition to guarantee the flow-on of development gains to developing countries from international agrifoods and commodities trade.

What is required, however, is a comprehensive and integrated development package of targeted initiatives and programs which include debt relief, increased flows in ODA and FDI, and trade-related capacity-building programmes for developing countries. The panoply of complex and restrictive non-tariff measures applied 'at and behind' borders in markets of export interest to CDDCs exerts considerable budgetary pressures on producers, traders, exporters, competent authorities, let alone, cash- and resource-poor national governments as compliance costs pile up. Macro- and micro-compliance costs are so high that many CDDCs do not have to budgetary resources and/or the technical competencies to implement conformity measures and invest in infrastructure and appropriate technologies. Firm-level (private & voluntary) market entry standards (e.g. GlobalGAP) – these are higher than public (mandatory) standards (e.g. Codex alimentarius) – are increasingly becoming the benchmark for international trade in agrifoods and commodities. A prerequisite for meeting of these standards is access to and investment of substantial start-up and working capital. A requisite often beyond the capacity of producers and exporters meets. Left unchecked, unmitigated and undercapitalized, these non-tariff measures eventually do become trade restricting devices, imposing severe compliance costs along entire global agrifood and commodities supply chains.

Many of the problems faced by developing countries relating to sanitary and phytosanitary measures and compliance to food safety standards and quality controls reflect their wider, resource and supply-side constraints. Without technical and financial assistance – from national, regional and international sources – to help curb these bottlenecks at the source (producers-level), the opportunities and gains from international trade can neither be assured nor sustained.

As the key organization with the UN system responsible for 'making trade work for developing countries', the foregoing serve as the *raison d'être* for the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) into this 'new' fast-growing evolving field in international trade. With human and animal health (safety) and phytosanitary issues being addressed by other organizations, both within (e.g. FAO, WHO) and outside the UN, UNCTAD is more interested in the trade-related aspects of SPS measures, adherence to divergent food laws and technical regulations, and food quality and safety standards including the recent surge in green or sustainability-related standards and certifications protocols.

Since 2000, UNCTAD has strengthened its work on market-access problems facing developing countries, focusing on SPS measures and on compliance with food quality and safety standards, not forgetting, food laws and regulations. Currently UNCTAD implements trade-related capacity-building projects related to these areas in a number of developing countries, namely **Guinea**, Mozambique, the United Republic of Tanzania, and the Pacific island economies of Samoa,

Solomon Islands and the Republic of Vanuatu. These projects aim to help small– and medium-scale agrifood producers and exporters improve their capacities in addressing sanitary and phytosanitary requirements, meet food safety standards, comply with food laws and regulation, and build supply-side infrastructure and services (e.g. quarantine facilities and laboratories). Doing so enhances their export competitiveness and retained value added, raise per capita incomes, and contribute to poverty reduction.

This Project Report of the SPS project in Guinea, West Africa[vi] brings up-to-date, information relating to this project which is currently being implemented by UNCTAD in collaboration with key national partners, beginning 2005. The project was generously funded, in full, with grant assistance of US$575,996 (less 13% overhead costs) from the Standards and Trade Development Facility (STDF) of WTO.

3. WTO/STDF-funded SPS Project - Guinea, West Africa

3.1 Basic economic & trade facts – Guinea [vii]

Guinea is endowed with vast natural resources-rich, but remains a least developed West-African country with 47% of its population living below the official poverty line (US$1 per day). Mining accounts for over 70% of its aggregate exports valued at US$998 million (f.o.b 2007 est.). Guinea accounts for almost 50% of the world's bauxite reserves and is the second-largest bauxite producer.

While agriculture accounts for 22% of GDP ($3.894 billion (2007 est.), it caters for 76% of Guinea's labor force 4 million (2007 est.). Guinea's major agricultural products are; rice, coffee, pineapples, palm kernels, cassava (tapioca), bananas, sweet potatoes; and cattle, sheep, and goats.

Basic facts	Trade facts
• 4 million – population • $ 343.6 million – GDP • 1.5% - real GDP growth rate • $ 1,000 – GDP per capita income • $182.1 million – ODA receipts (2005) • $3.298 billion – External debt (2007 est.) • $1 = 4,123 Guinean francs – Exchange rate • 20% - Inflation rate	• Export commodities - bauxite, alumina, gold, diamonds, coffee, fish, agricultural products • Exports markets - Russia 11.7%, Ukraine 9.6%, South Korea 8.9%, Spain 8.1%, France 7.8%, US 7.8%, Germany 5.4%, Ireland 5.1% • Imports - $838 million f.o.b. (2007 est.) • Import partners - China 8.6%, France 8.1%, Netherlands 4.8%, Belgium 4.4%

Despite being endowed with vast natural resources including minerals, agricultural and forestry products to drive export-led trade and economic growth, Guinea, like many other LDCs, encounters inherent development challenges in international agricultural trade.

The list of constraints is laboriously long, however, it includes; vulnerability to economic shocks; low economies of scale, and poor supply chain linkages; tyranny of distance to major export markets and oil supplies which makes the 'cost of doing agribusiness' expensive; declining commodities prices deteriorates Guinea's TOT, and consequently, reduces her economic growth prospects; volatile commodities prices leads to income instability and economic hardships for 76% of its rural population dependent on agriculture; lack of access to financial markets, credit facilities and business acumen skills result in low capitalization, low productivity, product quality and incomes; trade barriers (tariff escalation, non-tariff barriers and non-tariff measures) restrict market access, and impede value addition & down-stream and industrialization in Guinea; and increasing compliance costs to meet SPS requirements and food safety and quality standards makes the cost of 'doing export business' expensive in Guinea.

It is against this backdrop which impelled UNCTAD to design, developed and implements the demand-driven SPS project in Guinea's horticultural sector commencing November 2005, thanks to the generous funding (US$575,996) from

the STDF. What follows are the details of the project's implementation as it relates to its objectives, objectively verifiable objectives, accomplishments, constraints & challenges, lessons learned and the way forward. First, it traces the genesis of the project: from inception to financing.

3.2 SPS project background

At UNCTAD, the Guinea SPS project comes under one of the three key pillars that drive the secretariat's work on trade and development, namely, the technical cooperation pillar.[viii] Under this pillar, UNCTAD designs, develops and implements - with technical and financial support from development partners – trade-related technical assistance for programmes and projects in developing countries, including the SPS project in Guinea.

In July 2005, UNCTAD completed an SPS compliance study in three selected African LDCs (Guinea, Mozambique and the Republic of Tanzania). With generous grant assistance from the **Government of Finland**, the study identified and quantified both micro- and macro-costs of compliance accruing to producers and exporters (private, firm-level) and the public sector, respectively, for standards in tropical fruits and vegetables. The detailed study: "Costs of agrifood safety and compliance – Mozambique, Tanzania, Guinea – Tropical fruits (UNCTAD 2005)" conducted in three selected LDCs was followed-up by convening national workshops where the findings of the study were discussed. The study benefitted from the inputs of national stakeholders' views and experiences as well as substantive presentations made by experts and resource persons. The study also makes recommendations on ways and means by which the Governments of Guinea, Mozambique and Tanzania could improve private and public sector capacity in this area.

The STDF provided UNCTAD with the necessary funds to design and implement a technical assistance follow-up project in Guinea based on the findings of the study cited above "Costs of agrifood safety and compliance – Mozambique, Tanzania, Guinea – Tropical fruits" and the recommendations stemming from the national workshop held in Conakry, July 2005. The STDF financed the Guinea national workshop with US$20,000, part of which was used to recruit a consultant to conduct national consultations and prepare a grant application for Guinea. The grant application, totalling US$530,000, was submitted to the STDF, 19 August 2005. The STDF Working Group approved funding of the Guinea project in September 2005. Implementation of the project, "A model for the development of a public/private safety control system for the horticultural sector in Guinea" commenced November 2005. The projects' objectives were to: assist producers' and exporter associations in Guinea to comply with SPS requirements and GlobalGAP, address market access exigencies, enhance export competitiveness, raise incomes, and reduce poverty.

Project implementation commenced November 2005. The two-month leeway, after receiving funding approval from the STDF, was imperative to have in-place all the necessary stops, particularly institutional arrangements before actual field implementation. Of particular importance and, requiring more lead-time, were the *modus operandi* for project fund disbursement and reporting arrangements within UNCTAD, and between UNCTAD-STDF, and UNCTAD-Guinea project partners, including UNDP Office in Guinea. UNCTAD-Guinea operations setup took longer than originally planned because of weak institutional capacities of key government agencies; identification and fielding of the national project coordinator; and operational and management arrangements with selected pilot farms which are heterogeneous and widely dispersed across Guinea.

3.3 Basic project data

Basic Project Data	
Name of Grantee	United Nations Conference for Trade and Development (UNCTAD)
Project title	SPS – A model for the development of a public / private safety control system for the horticultural sector
Beneficiary Country	Guinea
Donor	WTO/STDF
Grant Amount	US$575,996
Grant Year	2005
Grant Number	STDF 65
Implementing Agency	Special Unit on Commodities, UNCTAD
Project Officer	Amos Wama Taporaie (July 2009 to present)

3.3 Project activities, OVIs and remarks

The table below gives a list of the project's activities which were fully implemented between November 2005 and December 2008.

Project activities	Objectively Verifiable Indicators	Remarks
Activity 1: Set up a National Project Management Unit	▪ Establishing a National Project Management ▪ Acquire equipment and materials ▪ Collaborate with UNCTAD to develop detailed Annual Work Plan and Budget; and Select participants for the Safety Management Expert Force and the Public Inspection Force	**Completed**
Activity 2: Training of a Safety Management Expert Force for the horticultural sector	▪ Prepare selected materials and equipment for demonstration of safety systems at the demonstration farm ▪ Prepare and produce training packages necessary for the retransmission of information at farm level (conception of materials will be the responsibility of the training consultancy) ▪ Train private technicians and public extension officers to provide support for the implementation of safety systems and EurepGap protocol ▪ The pilot project managers and the training consultants will select 4 of the trained Safety Management Managers to implement EurepGap in the pilot projects. ▪ All of the participants will be required to implement safety systems (even if only partially) at field level and to submit a report documenting the process. ▪ The report will be evaluated by the training consultant.	**Completed**
Activity 3: Lay the ground for the establishment of a Public Inspection Force for the	▪ Establishment of a collaborative framework between the project and the government for the formation of an informal Horticultural Inspection Force	**Completed** A Public Inspection Force (PIF) was established made up of 10

horticultural sector	▪ Develop an inspection manual for the Inspection Force ▪ Select a coordinator for the inspection force ▪ Select 10 inspectors from the national institutions for quality control (4 from phytosanitary control -DPV, LNPV-, 4 from quality control -SNCQN- and 2 from final product control -CAFEX) to carried out field inspections of the pilot project. The selection will be based on the qualifications of the inspectors and on the basis of interviews. ▪ Train these 10 inspectors on inspection procedures ▪ Develop checklists for the attribution of field quality and phytosanitary certificates (SNCQN and DPV/LNPV level) as well as for product quality and phytosanitary certificates (CAFEX level). ▪ Inspect pilot projects to issue field certificates of quality and phytosanitary. ▪ Evaluate the unit performance by an external consultant ▪ Develop legislative texts for the regulation of the Inspection Force ▪ Start a consultation process with public and private sector for the official establishment of an Horticultural Inspection Force	inspectors drawn from key national agencies engaged in SPS measures, food safety standards, quarantine & inspection services, including CAFEX, DPV and LNPV. The major aims of creating and establishing the PIF were to; to have a pool of technically qualified staff to help increase the competency of public and private sector agencies improve the regulatory oversights needed to assure the safety of Guinea's agrifood products traded; be 'agents of change' as trainers to inform key stakeholders on the proliferation of stringent food safety and quality requirements in export markets as well as adherence to food laws and technical regulations; contribute towards the improvement of a National Competent Authority (over the long
Activity 4: Strengthen the capacity of laboratories involved in the control of safety of horticultural exports	▪ Training of laboratory staff (phytosanitary analysis and pesticide residue analysis) in accredited laboratories ▪ Acquisition of IT and lab equipment	**Partially completed** IT equipments (a computer, a printer, a scanner and a fax) were financed by the project and put at the disposal of CAFEX (national coordinating bureau of the project in Guinea). Key laboratory equipments, estimated to cost US$ 200,000 (c.i.f.), have been indentified by a consultant, suppliers identified, competitive bidding and quotes received from suppliers, and lab equipment to be purchased in Europe and landed in Conakry, Guinea, **March/April 2010**. Earlier delivery of the lab equipment in mid-2009 was not feasible due to the political turmoil in the country.[ix]

Activity 5: Build national certification capability and certify pilot projects	▪ Train three inspectors and auditors chosen from the public and private sectors ▪ Facilitate the establishment of a collaborative framework between an internationally accredited certification body (ACB) and national private auditor ▪ Inspect pilot projects by the trained national auditor ▪ Audit the production of pilot projects by national auditor in collaboration with the ACB ▪ Obtain the certification of the pilot projects	**Completed** Three auditors were financed by the project to follow a four week-training program on pesticide and microbiology analysis in Morocco. The national auditors have been active both in their employment agencies, but also assisted an external auditor who had gone to conduct audits of the pilot farms for GlobalGAP certification. Of the 3 pilot farms, Cooperative Burquiah has been successfully GlobalGAP certified through the project. A partnership was established with IMO, a Swiss certifying body, to train farmers, inspectors, and prepare certification plans for pilot farms seeking GlobalGAP certification.
Activity 6: Implement certification plans in selected pilot projects	▪ Develop certification plans for each pilot project. These plans will be developed by the Safety Managers in coordination with a food safety consultant. ▪ Implement certification plans ▪ Follow up on the implementation of the certification plans by a food safety consultant. ▪ Provide assistance in the acquisition of materials and upgrading of equipment and infrastructure necessary to implement at the certification plans. ▪ Prepare operational and cost manuals for each section of the protocols (this activity will be the responsibility of the pilot project Safety Managers and the reports will be evaluated by a safety specialist) ▪ Pilot projects are GlobalGAP certified (see	**Completed** Certification plans were prepared and implemented by IMO, in close cooperation with the selected pilot farms. The members of the Public Inspection Force (FIP) participated in the conception and implementation of these pilot farms.
Activity 7: Develop an website for dissemination of project results (GuinéGap website)	▪ Prepare all project information for upload into GuinéGap website. ▪ Website design and upload of information ▪ Train CAFEX staff for website up-dating.	The Coordinating Unit (CAFEX) recruited a webmaster financed by the project to design and develop the SPS Guinea portal (www.sps-guinee.com).x Training modules for key project staff at CAFEX staff will be delivered by UNCTAD as part of our overall strategy to revamp the project website (see Endnote vi.) This is essential because the website has to be updated regularly with 'new' and updated

		information, laws and regulations related to agrifood trade and SPS measures, food safety and quality requirements, not forgetting, uploading of **all** project-generated documents, training modules, consultancy studies, publications, reports, and presentations (e.g. PowerPoint, video, movies, media clips, etc.)

3.4 Project management and implementation

3.4.1 National Project Management Unit

A national project management Unit (NPMU) devoted to oversee the implementation of the project at the national level was successfully established in February 2006 by UNCTAD, in close cooperation with the Ministry of Trade and Industry (CAFEX), the representatives of producers' associations and export associations, and other public and private institutions (Direction Nationale de la Protection des Végétaux, le CAFEX, et le Service National de Contrôle de la Qualité et des Normes). The NPMU's aim is to monitor the day-to-day implementation of the project at the national level.

IT equipment (computer, printer, fax and photocopy) with Internet and e-mail access were bought through the project and provided to the NPMU in April 2006. A secretary for the office of the NPMU was recruited to liaise with the beneficiaries of the project, the three selected pilot farms, the Ministries (Trade and Industry, Agriculture and Public Health) and UNCTAD. The development of the project's website (www.sps-guinee.com) and its contents were completed in June 2008. UNCTAD will, as a matter of urgency, revamp the project website as part of its overall strategy to revamp the project website (see Endnote vi.). The exercise will include, but not limited to, updating website with 'new' information, laws and regulations related to agrifood trade and SPS measures, food safety and quality requirements, uploading of **all** project-generated documents, training modules, consultancy studies, reports, presentations, news clips, and publications. The project website will be strategically linked to the Sustainability Claims Portal which is been developed by UNCTAD under the EU-funded AAACP project to be launched in selected beneficiary ACP countries in 2010. This will most definitely ensure quality and sustainability of the Guinea SPS website after completion of the SPS Guinea project, *ceteris paribus*, circa 31 June 2010.

3.4.2 Capacity-building training workshops

The project developed and implemented a series of training workshops for the representatives of the three selected pilot farms (Cooperative Burquiah, Fabik and Union des Pommes de Terre), as well as for technicians from public support services and private sector agents.

Seven training workshops were organized during which training modules and/or teaching materials on SPS, Good Agricultural Practices (GAP), Good Manufacturing Practices (GMP), ISO 9000, ISO 22000, HACCP and EUREPGAP were prepared and presented to participants. The SPS Agreement was also presented to workshops' participants. These training workshops provided technicians from public and private institutional services with tools to assist producers' associations and export associations to implement safety management systems and comply with SPS and retailers' agrifood safety standards. Almost 210 participants (30 per workshop) attended these training workshops, which included representatives from ministries and civil society organizations.

In order to facilitate the participation of small producers and exporters coming from outside Conakry, the project financed the expenditures (travel and per diems) for 170 workshop participants out of 210 who benefited from these workshops. Six experts and 12 resource persons mostly from the private sector, with practical experience in agrifood safety and SPS measures, also took part in their personal capacity in these national workshops and submitted short papers.

Various methods were used in the training including lectures, demonstrations, discussions, group work and group presentations. Each participant received copies of the trainer presentations and UNCTAD will put them together and develop a training CD. The teaching style used involved significant interactions between the trainers and the participants, encouraging an on-going dialogue of questions, comments, and personal experiences to reinforce lesson materials. The atmosphere promoted trainer recognition for a given expertise and also recognized the knowledge and experiences of the participants.

At the end of each training workshop, the participants were requested to respond to an evaluation. Effective evaluations allow the trainers and UNCTAD to systematically determine areas of success in the training environment, identify areas requiring modification, and address additional areas of interest. The evaluations results indicate the participants were pleased with the training materials and the trainers.

3.4.3 Certification plans for pilot farms

A key objective of the project was to obtain the certification of the three selected pilot farms to GlobalGAP. The certification plans prepared by *Institut für Marktökologie (IMO), Switzerland* were finalized in November 2006 as well as the pre-audit phase aimed to ensure the implementation of the necessary measures and assisted the three pilot farms in the realization of the necessary tasks, such as: (i) structure of each pilot farm and responsibilities (for instance who decides on application of fertilizers and pesticides) and determine if changes in the structure are necessary for certification; (ii) basic information (verify the applicable local legislations, define how to eliminate correctly empty boxes of pesticides); (iii) building machines (define measures related to buildings for storing fertilizers, plant protection products, handling and workers living on the farm); and the construction of toilets near the fields and the handling facilities.

3.5 Project administration

UNCTAD planned, coordinated, managed all programming budgeting, and fund control; determined and operated within a project budget of US$575,996 (less 13% overheads shared between UNCTAD (8%) and WTO (5%)); designed and instituted a comprehensive review and analysis program to track critical programs, budgets, IT and laboratories equipments, consultants and training workshops; managed and maintained contract requirements for purchasing and distributing all supplies, equipments and services required; eliminated all unnecessary purchases through effective procurement procedures through UNDP office in Conakry; created and developed an accurate accounting system, maximizing results in support of the procurement procedures; and performed as liaison between consultants and/or trainers, pilot farms, ministry of trade and industry of Guinea and IMO. See Endnote iii for current project fund balance (as at 26 November 2009).

3.6 Constraints & challenges

The successful implementation of development projects as such is often contingent on overcoming the constraints and challenges that are present before, during and after project completion. Insofar as the Guinea SPS compliance project is concerned, the following constraints were pertinent.

- **Project start-up was delay**ed by 2 months as UNCTAD had to put-in-place all the necessary stops so that project implementation progressed as smoothly as possible. These included the established and fine-tuning of the administration and management *modus operandi* both within UNCTAD and with partnering agencies, including national counterparts in Guinea such as the UNDP Office.
- The **weak institutional linkages** and capacities omnipresent in LDCs like Guinea coupled with communication difficulties with national partners prolonged the setting up of NPMU. This also delayed the identification and selection of the 3 pilot farms and the national project coordinator.
- **Political risks** adversely impact project implementation. Guinea was no exception. Frequent and unexpected political turmoil, striking workers, and civic unrest severely disrupted delivery of planned activities and schedules. Mitigative measures, including flexibility and understanding both within and with project partners especially due to unforeseen catastrophes are highly advisable. See Endnotes iv and v.
- **Information overload** is a key challenge. The delivery of highly technical material on GAPs, GMP, ISO 19000, ISO 22000, GlobalGAP certification requirements, etc., during training programmes do overwhelm participants. Striking a balance between what participants need and what the project wants to deliver is critical. A needs assessment prior project implementation would help correct this anomaly so that what is delivered matches what is needed. Also the identification and selection of workshop participants to highly technical training workshops as such need more scrutiny so that the knowledge imparted at such workshops is not only useful, but applied in the field (farm or business entity).
- Several **control points** are difficult to be fulfilled due to missing information on local laws (e.g. with regard to requirements for drinking and irrigation water). Time available for the UNCTAD project was very short, compared to the huge efforts expected from the farmers for compliance. Generally, the relevant consultancy structure needs to be built up in Guinea. This would have to include research on adequate fertilization, quantity of nutrients needed for cultivation crops under local conditions and pest control, consultancy on environmental aspects, e.g. with regard to sustainability, farm cultivation in sensitive inundation areas, integrated pest control, etc.

3.7 Lessons learned

There are three key lessons learned during the two-year reporting period: January 2008-November 2009, which are;

- *First*, the identification and selection of pilot farms is also fundamental for the success of the project as well as its sustainability. GlobalGAP's certification protocols (e.g. building warehouses, toilets, implementing all non-conformity points, etc) are very stringent and demanding. It entails pilot farms having sufficient resources of their own – fund, equipment, know-how, business acumen, labour supply, etc., - to fully benefit from such project. Project resources should be to complement and build on existing resources and strengths, not to finance or fund the entire GlobalGAP certification process. This needs to be made clear to potential participants or pilot farms from day one, especially during the identification process. This would ensure the capture of genuine participants who have the resources to go beyond the project-initiated activities to being able to acquire the necessary supply-enhancing infrastructure such as cold storage chains, testing equipment, communication tools, packaging sheds, transportation, and marketing and management skills. It would also avoid fall-outs (e.g. Fabik Cooperative) during project implementation because they do not have the necessary skills or the resources to continue engagement in the project.
- *Second*, a general observation, but having significant implications between project success and failure has to be the relationship between the implementing agency and the national beneficiaries. That is, the implementation agency should be seen and taken as the ***facilitator*** who has certain skills to help deliver project activities and attain certain objectives. And it should ***not or never be expected to fix or fill all*** the administration and resource deficiencies omnipresent among developing-country governments' and partnering national agencies, through development projects as such. Through the Guinea SPS project implementation experience, we find that there is an ardent need, at the national level, for much stronger political-will and genuine commitment towards attainment of project objectives and ownership of outcomes, either good, bad or ugly. Further, this should be coupled with much greater willingness to make mistakes, accept compromise solutions and succeed together with the implementing agency (UNCTAD). These are critical first-steps for success. Without this delicate balance, development partners remain unequally yoked, thus giving time and space for 'the blame game' to take root, sow seeds distrust and sprout unmet expectations. Project failure is imminent.
- *Third*, and perhaps most important lesson learned through the Guinea SPS project that has developmental implications throughout the commodity dependent developing countries, particularly those is sub-Saharan Africa, is the political risks at the national level. Guinea Conakry's political crisis, for example, which erupted in December 2008 following the bloodless military coup, has delivered a devastating blow on delivery project activities as well as halt project implementation for much of year 2009. Critical project activities such as the; procurement, delivery and instalment of laboratory equipment for testing and grading horticultural products at the Centre d'Étude et de Recherche en Environnement; revamping of the project website; and assistance to Kalo Enterprises to attain

GlobalGAP certification, have been delayed by a year. In 2009, almost zero project-related activities were implemented on the field.

- It is therefore imperative that for future projects in developing countries, particularly in sub-Saharan Africa, political risks as such should be thoroughly scoped and potential solutions factored in at the design phase.

3.8 Unfinished business & way forward

Being able to meet stringent market entry requirements such as SPS measures and-or compliance to private (voluntary) standards (e.g. GlobalGAP) means better terms of trade for both the selected pilot farms (income) and government (export revenue). This contributes towards the Millennium Development Goal's number one objective: poverty reduction. The selected pilot farms have extensive backward and forward inter-industry linkages with over 1,500 small horticultural farmers involved in the Guinea SPS project, not to mention, the other key stakeholders who have benefited from the capacity-building training activities delivered on good agricultural practices, and GlobalGAP.

In order for the Guinea SPS project to fully achieve its stated objectives, it is imperative that the project termination date be extended to **31 June 2010**.

When considering this request for extension, it is incumbent on the STDF Working Party to consider it in the light of the 'extremely difficult' situation due to the political turmoil which gained momentum in Dec 2008 and persists today in Guinea Conakry. Under these trying circumstances, UNCTAD - the implementing agency, was required to operate and implement project-related activities in Guinea, especially this year (2009), which was impractical at the field level.

Add to this was the tragic loss of the incumbent project officer, Late Mr. D. Faye, in May 2009. This unfortunately dented continuity in project management as well as disrupted project implementation.

Granting of an extension - to 31 June 2010 - by the STDF Working Party to the implementing agency would enable UNCTAD to complete outstanding key project activities – 'unfinished business', consolidate the development gains made thus far, and draw the project to a successful completion on 31 June 2010.

The following project-related activities are to be completed by 31 June 2010;

1. *Procure* and disburse laboratory equipment, estimated to cost over $150,000, to the Centre d'Étude et de Recherche en Environnement in Guinea Conakry, circa March/April 2010.
2. *Revamp* of the project website and, as a matter of priority, link it up with UNCTAD's Sustainability Claims Portal.
3. *Assist* Kalo Enterprises attain GlobalGAP certification

4. *Conduct* an independent review of the project in general, in particular the progress on the pilot farms
5. Compile and submit to WTO/STDF secretariat the **Final Project Report** which will include project implementation narrative and financial reports in July/August 2010.
6. *Design* a follow-up project, seek external funding and implement it so as to consolidate the gains from the current project, monitor progress on selected pilot farms, and bring new agrifood farms and producers in Guinea into export trade.

3.9 Project documents [xi]

- Lists of workshop participants and trainers
- Training modules and/or teaching materials
- Training manual on safety and quality standards for fruit and vegetables
- Manual of procedures for the public inspection force
- Report on the national legislation guiding agrifood exports in Guinea
- Report on the pre-audit of the pilot farms

4. Financial Reporting

4.1 WTO/STDF Contributions: 2005-2007

Year	Date	Amount (US $)
2007	04 Dec 2007	3,272
	Sub-total 2007	**3,272**
2005	22 Dec 2005	572,724
	Sub-total 2005	**572,724**
	Total	**575,996**

Source: UNCTAD Technical Cooperation Portal - IMIS data (as at 26 Nov 2009)

4.2 Income and Expenditure Statements – 2005 - 2009

			USD
OPENING BALANCE AS OF 01/12/2005			0.00
INCOME	CONTRIBUTION: WTO - 22/12/2005		572,724.00
	TOTAL CONTRIBUTIONS		**572,724.00**
INCOME	INTEREST		42,623.46
INCOME	OTHER ADJUSTMENTS		8,185.50
	TOTAL INCOME		**623,532.96**
TOTAL FUNDS AVAILABLE			**623,532.96**
EXPENDITURES	EXPENDITURES BY COMPONENT	PERSONNEL	241,012.01
EXPENDITURES	EXPENDITURES BY COMPONENT	SUB-CONTRACTS	3,608.53
EXPENDITURES	EXPENDITURES BY COMPONENT	TRAINING	55,345.00
EXPENDITURES	EXPENDITURES BY COMPONENT	EQUIPMENT	30,017.64
EXPENDITURES	EXPENDITURES BY COMPONENT	MISCELLANEOUS	15,582.16
	TOTAL EXPENDITURES BY COMPONENT		**345,565.34**
EXPENDITURES	PROGRAMME SUPPORT		27,645.22
TOTAL EXPENDITURE			**373,210.56**
FUND BALANCE			**250,322.40**

Source: UNCTAD Technical Cooperation Portal - IMIS data (as at 26 Nov 2009)

4.3 Project Fund Status by Budget Line – 2007 - 2009

Object Class	Budget Line Code	Budget Line Description	Funded	Unliq. Pre encumbr.	Unliquidated Obligations	Disbursements	Expenditures To Date	Budget Balance	Support Cost	Savings
441	1101	Experts	140,976.00	0.00	0.00	64,760.62	64,760.62	76,215.38	0.00	0.00
441	1151	Consultant fees	95,500.00	0.00	0.00	53,700.00	53,700.00	41,800.00	0.00	0.00
441	1151	Consultants	140,000.00	0.00	0.00	21,200.00	21,200.00	118,800.00	0.00	0.00
441	1301	Administrative Support	1,212.00	0.00	0.00	1,212.00	1,212.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
441	1501	Official travel	64,270.00	0.00	5,137.00	6,653.66	11,790.66	52,479.34	0.00	0.00
441	1601	Mission Costs	82,371.00	0.00	1,925.00	78,182.13	80,107.13	2,263.87	0.00	0.00
441	1701	National Consultant	25,000.00	0.00	1,500.00	6,741.60	8,241.60	16,758.40	0.00	0.00
Subtotal Object Class 441			**549,329.00**	**0.00**	**8,562.00**	**232,450.01**	**241,012.01**	**308,316.99**	**0.00**	**0.00**
442	2102	Editing and printing	36,084.00	0.00	0.00	3,608.53	3,608.53	32,475.47	0.00	0.00
Subtotal Object Class 442			**36,084.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**	**3,608.53**	**3,608.53**	**32,475.47**	**0.00**	**0.00**
443	3201	Workshop and training	145,589.00	0.00	13,075.30	42,269.70	55,345.00	90,244.00	0.00	0.00
Subtotal Object Class 443			**145,589.00**	**0.00**	**13,075.30**	**42,269.70**	**55,345.00**	**90,244.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**
444	4501	Equipment	326,340.00	0.00	6,559.55	23,458.09	30,017.64	296,322.36	0.00	0.00
Subtotal Object Class 444			**326,340.00**	**0.00**	**6,559.55**	**23,458.09**	**30,017.64**	**296,322.36**	**0.00**	**0.00**
445	5201	Reporting costs	3,567.00	0.00	0.00	15,374.28	15,374.28	(11,807.28)	0.00	0.00
445	5301	Miscellaneous	18,522.00	0.00	0.00	207.88	207.88	18,314.12	0.00	0.00
Subtotal Object Class 445			**22,089.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**	**15,582.16**	**15,582.16**	**6,506.84**	**0.00**	**0.00**
Grandtotal			**1,079,431.00**	**0.00**	**28,196.85**	**317,368.49**	**345,565.34**	**733,865.66**	**0.00**	**0.00**

Source: UNCTAD Technical Cooperation Portal - IMIS data (as at 01 Dec 2009)

Year 2009

Object Class	Budget Line Code	Budget Line Description	Funded	Unliq. Pre encumbr.	Unliquidated Obligations	Disbursements	Expenditures To Date	Budget Balance	Support Cost	Savings
441	1151	Consultant fees	50,000.00	0.00	4,200.00	0.00	4,200.00	45,800.00	0.00	0.00
441	1601	Mission Costs	10,000.00	0.00	0.00	204.00	204.00	9,796.00	0.00	0.00
Subtotal Object Class 441			**60,000.00**	**0.00**	**4,200.00**	**204.00**	**4,404.00**	**55,596.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**
443	3201	Workshop and training	32,206.00	0.00	0.00	204.00	204.00	32,002.00	0.00	0.00
Subtotal Object Class 443			**32,206.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**	**204.00**	**204.00**	**32,002.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**
444	4501	Equipment	120,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	120,000.00	0.00	0.00
Subtotal Object Class 444			**120,000.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**	**120,000.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**
Grandtotal			**212,206.00**	**0.00**	**4,200.00**	**408.00**	**4,608.00**	**207,598.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**

Source: UNCTAD Technical Cooperation Portal - IMIS data (as at 01 Dec 2009)

Year 2008

Object Class	Budget Line Code	Budget Line Description	Funded	Unliq. Pre encumbr.	Unliquidated Obligations	Disbursements	Expenditures To Date	Budget Balance	Support Cost	Savings
443	3201	Workshop and training	0.00	0.00	0.00	(255.93)	(255.93)	255.93	0.00	0.00
Subtotal Object Class 443			**0.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**	**(255.93)**	**(255.93)**	**255.93**	**0.00**	**0.00**
Grandtotal			**0.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**	**(255.93)**	**(255.93)**	**255.93**	**0.00**	**0.00**

Source: UNCTAD Technical Cooperation Portal - IMIS data (as at 01 Dec 2009)

Year 2007

Object Class	Budget Line Code	Budget Line Description	Funded	Unliq. Pre encumbr.	Unliquidated Obligations	Disbursements	Expenditures To Date	Budget Balance	Support Cost	Savings
441	1101	Experts	43,200.00	0.00	0.00	5,049.67	5,049.67	38,150.33	0.00	0.00
441	1151	Consultants	105,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	105,000.00	0.00	0.00
441	1501	Official travel	30,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	30,000.00	0.00	0.00
441	1601	Mission Costs	10,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	10,000.00	0.00	0.00
Subtotal Object Class 441			**188,200.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**	**5,049.67**	**5,049.67**	**183,150.33**	**0.00**	**0.00**
442	2102	Editing and printing	6,084.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	6,084.00	0.00	0.00
Subtotal Object Class 442			**6,084.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**	**6,084.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**
443	3201	Workshop and training	40,000.00	0.00	0.00	12.32	12.32	39,987.68	0.00	0.00
Subtotal Object Class 443			**40,000.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**	**12.32**	**12.32**	**39,987.68**	**0.00**	**0.00**
444	4501	Equipment	135,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	135,000.00	0.00	0.00
Subtotal Object Class 444			**135,000.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**	**135,000.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**
445	5301	Miscellaneous	10,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	10,000.00	0.00	0.00
445	9400		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.99	0.00
Subtotal Object Class 445			**10,000.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**	**10,000.00**	**0.99**	**0.00**
Grandtotal			**379,284.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**	**5,061.99**	**5,061.99**	**374,222.01**	**0.99**	**0.00**

Source: UNCTAD Technical Cooperation Portal - IMIS data (as at 01 Dec 2009)

Year 2006

Object Class	Budget Line Code	Budget Line Description	Funded	Unliq. Pre encumbr.	Unliquidated Obligations	Disbursements	Expenditures To Date	Budget Balance	Support Cost	Savings
441	1151	Consultant fees	248,980.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	248,980.00	0.00	0.00
441	1601	Mission Costs	32,900.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	32,900.00	0.00	0.00
Subtotal Object Class 441			**281,880.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**	**281,880.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**
442	2102	Editing and printing	10,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	10,000.00	0.00	0.00
Subtotal Object Class 442			**10,000.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**	**10,000.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**
443	3201	Workshop and training	40,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	40,000.00	0.00	0.00
Subtotal Object Class 443			**40,000.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**	**40,000.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**
444	4501	Equipment	188,420.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	188,420.00	0.00	0.00
Subtotal Object Class 444			**188,420.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**	**188,420.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**
445	5301	Miscellaneous	10,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	10,000.00	0.00	0.00
Subtotal Object Class 445			**10,000.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**	**10,000.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**
Grandtotal			**530,300.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**	**530,300.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**

Source: UNCTAD Technical Cooperation Portal - IMIS data (as at 01 Dec 2009)

4.4 *Certified* Statement of Account: Jan - Dec 2008[1]

CONFÉRENCE DES NATIONS UNIES SUR
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UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE
ON TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT

Palais Des Nations
CH-1211 Genève 10

TECHNICAL COOPERATION TRUST FUND
STATEMENT OF ACCOUNT

PERIOD: JAN 2008 TO DEC 2008
DONOR: WTO
PROJECT: INT0T5BQ - SPS(A Model for the development of a private/public safety control system for the horticultural exports

	USD
OPENING BALANCE AS OF 01/01/2008	394,301.74
INCOME	
CONTRIBUTION	0.00
INTEREST	11,711.67
OTHER ADJUSTMENTS	638.24
INCOME TOTAL	12,349.91
TOTAL FUNDS AVAILABLE	406,651.65
EXPENDITURE BY COMPONENT	
PERSONNEL	82,193.88
SUB-CONTRACTS	3,808.53
TRAINING	22,107.68
EQUIPMENT	4,642.98
MISCELLANEOUS	12,132.81
EXPENDITURE SUB-TOTAL	124,685.86
PROGRAMME SUPPORT	9,974.85
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	134,660.71
FUND BALANCE	271,990.94

19 Feb 2009

Vitali Rousak
Chief, Budget and Project Finance Section

[1] The **Account Statement for Jan – Dec 2009** (certified by UNCTAD's Budgets and Project Finance Section) will be available on 04 Feb 2010. A copy of this statement will be submitted to the WTO/STDF secretariat soon thereafter.

4.5 Travel & Missions

Travelling Staff Member	Itinerary Description	Country of Travel	Date of Departure	Date of Return
Faye, Djidiack	Geneva SWI\Dakar SEN\Geneva SWI		11 Mar 2009	17 Mar 2009
Faye, Djidiack	Geneva SWI\Dakar SEN\Geneva SWI		06 Dec 2008	13 Dec 2008
Gayi, Samuel	Geneva SWI\Ouagadougou BKF\Geneva SWI		17 Nov 2008	20 Nov 2008
Faye, Djidiack	Geneva SWI\Libreville GAB\Geneva SWI		16 Nov 2008	20 Nov 2008
Aitaddi, Elhabib	Agadir MOR\Conakry GUI\Agadir MOR		25 Oct 2008	01 Nov 2008
Faye, Djidiack	Geneva SWI\Conakry GUI\Geneva SWI		04 Oct 2008	08 Oct 2008
Eisenlohr, Ute	Zurich SWI\Conakry GUI\Zurich SWI		03 Oct 2008	07 Oct 2008
Kostecki, Karolina	Geneva SWI\London UK\Geneva SWI		30 Sep 2008	02 Oct 2008
Faye, Djidiack	Geneva SWI\Conakry GUI\Dakar SEN\Geneva SWI		27 Aug 2008	06 Sep 2008
De Vos, Nathalie	Brussels BEL\Geneva SWI\Brussels BEL		10 May 2008	13 May 2008
Hahnke, Sonja	Zurich SWI\Conakry GUI\Zurich SWI		27 Apr 2008	02 May 2008
Hahnke, Sonja	Zurich SWI\Conakry GUI\Zurich SWI		30 Mar 2008	02 Apr 2008
Faye, Djidiack	Geneva SWI\Conakry GUI\Geneva SWI		29 Mar 2008	02 Apr 2008
Faye, Djidiack	Geneva SWI\Conakry GUI\Dakar SEN\Geneva SWI		23 Feb 2008	08 Mar 2008
Faye, Djidiack	Geneva SWI\Conakry GUI\Geneva SWI		27 Nov 2007	02 Dec 2007
Abdoul, Barry	Casablanca MOR\Rabat MOR\Casablanca MOR		11 Nov 2007	12 Nov 2007
Abdoul, Barry	Conakry GUI\Casablanca MOR\Agadir MOR\Conakry GUI		11 Nov 2007	01 Dec 2007
Moussa, Doumbouya	Casablanca MOR\Rabat MOR\Casablanca MOR		11 Nov 2007	12 Nov 2007
Moussa, Doumbouya	Conakry GUI\Casablanca MOR\Agadir MOR\Conakry GUI		11 Nov 2007	01 Dec 2007
Seydou, Camara	Casablanca MOR\Rabat MOR\Casablanca MOR		11 Nov 2007	12 Nov 2007
Seydou, Camara	Conakry GUI\Casablanca MOR\Agadir MOR\Conakry GUI		11 Nov 2007	01 Dec 2007
Maria-Sube, Elodie	Geneva SWI\Paris FRA\Geneva SWI		06 Nov 2007	09 Nov 2007
Eisenlohr, Ute	Zurich SWI\Conakry GUI\Zurich SWI		04 Nov 2007	07 Nov 2007
Abdoul, Barry	Conakry GUI\Geneva SWI\Conakry GUI		21 Sep 2007	10 Oct 2007
Moussa, Doumbouya	Conakry GUI\Geneva SWI\Conakry GUI		21 Sep 2007	10 Oct 2007
Seydou, Camara	Conakry GUI\Geneva SWI\Conakry GUI		21 Sep 2007	10 Oct 2007
Faye, Djidiack	Geneva SWI\Conakry GUI\Dakar SEN\Geneva SWI		26 Aug 2007	01 Sep 2007
Badji, Ougfaly	Dakar - Conakary - Dakar least costly Economy		01 May 2007	05 May 2007
Taporaie, Amos	Geneva-Conakry-Geneva		01 May 2007	04 May 2007
Aka, Aike	Geneva-Conakry-Geneva		04 Nov 2006	11 Nov 2006
Faye, Djidiack	Geneva-Conakry-Geneva		04 Nov 2006	11 Nov 2006
Eisenlohr, Ute	Zurich - Conakry - Zurich		29 Oct 2006	09 Nov 2006
Eisenlohr, Ute	Zurich - Conakry - Zurich		18 Jul 2006	20 Jul 2006
Chapeaux, Jean Pierre	Accra - Conakry - Accra economy class		17 Jul 2006	20 Jul 2006
MEZA, CLAUDIO	Geneva - Conakry - Geneva		16 Jul 2006	20 Jul 2006
Aka, Aike	Geneva - Conakry - Geneva Dep. on 15.7.06 to benefit from lower price on SN BRUSSELS		15 Jul 2006	22 Jul 2006
Badji, Ougfaly	Dakar - Conakry - Dakar		15 Jul 2006	22 Jul 2006
Faye, Djidiack	Geneva - Conakry - Geneva Dep. on 15.7 to befri from lower fare on SN BRUSSELS		15 Jul 2006	22 Jul 2006
Faye, Djidiack	Geneva - Banjul - Geneva		26 Apr 2006	28 Apr 2006
Faye, Djidiack	Conakry-Dakar		10 Mar 2006	10 Mar 2006
Faye, Djidiack	Geneva/Conakry(Guinea)4-6.3.06/Dakar(Senegal)10-14.3.06/Geneva		04 Mar 2006	14 Mar 2006

Source: UNCTAD Technical Cooperation Portal - IMIS data (as at 01 Dec 2009)

Endnotes

[i] This report follows the version submitted to the STDF secretariat in June 2009. The project report was prepared by Amos Wama Taporaie, SPS Guinea Project Officer, Special Unit on Commodities, UNCTAD, Geneva.

[ii] The Guinea SPS projects' exact title is "A model for the development of a public-private sector safety control system for the horticultural sector in Guinea."

[iii] The projects' **fund balance** - as at 26 November 2009 - is US$ 250,322.40 (or 43.5% of total project funding of $575,996). A *certified* Account Statement for Jan – Dec 2009 will be available on 04 Feb 2010. A copy of the same will be submitted to the WTO/STDF secretariat thereafter.

[iv] Retooling - procurement, delivery and installation – of the Centre d'Étude et de Recherche en Environnement (CERE) laboratory in Guinea Conakry with of essential analytical and grading equipment is critical to the success of the project. However, the ongoing political crisis in Conakry following the military coup in Dec 2008 and, the crushing of the pro-democracy rally in 28 Sept 2009 by the junta in which more than 150 people were killed, have severely hampered the delivery and implementation of planned project activities as such.

[v] Two critical missions to Conakry, Guinea for 4-5 Dec 2008 (by Late D. Faye) and 6-8 Oct 2009 (by Amos Wama Taporaie), respectively were cancelled due to the ongoing political crisis in Guinea Conakry. For instance, the 6-8 Oct 2009 mission was critical to make site visit to CERE laboratory and the pilot farms, especially Kalo Enterprises.

[vi] Even though this report is titled "Project Completion Report", it must be noted that key project-related activities, in particular, the procurement and delivery of key lab facilities and equipments, estimated to cost about US$ 200,000, is work in progress – *at the time of print* – to be delivered in Guinea in (estimate) Feb/March 2010.

[vii] Sources of information: 2008 CIA Factbook; UNCTAD 2005. Costs of agrifood safety and compliance – Mozambique, Tanzania, Guinea – Tropical fruits, Geneva (UNCTAD/DITC/COM/2005/2).

[viii] The three pillars of UNCTAD are (i) research & analysis, (ii) intergovernmental cooperation, and (iii) technical cooperation.

[ix] The laboratory equipments – already identified - are highly sophisticated and locating suppliers under one-roof (single supplier) has been difficult. While early delivery of the lab equipment had been made complicated by the political upheavals in Guinea, the shock and untimely passing away of the Late Dr. Faye (then UNCTAD project officer manager) in May 2009, had dealt a setback to project implementation. However, UNCTAD has swiftly instituted key project management changes to ensure project implementation continuity despite the loss of the project officer. Mr. Amos Wama Taporaie is now project officer, supported by Ms. Karolina Kostecki. Both have worked very closely with the Late Mr. Faye on all projects, including the Guinea SPS project. UNCTAD has the institutional capacity and support to implement the project to its successful completions and ensure that the projects' objectives are achieved, including delivery of the laboratory equipment which are fundamental to the success and sustainability of the Guinea SPS project.

[x] UNCTAD will endeavour to immediately put into motion plans to revamp and upgrade the Guinea SPS project website. We also intend to explore opportunities to strengthen the website, when we consolidate and leverage on the Sustainability Claims Portal currently being developed by UNCTAD under the Euro 45 million EU-ACP All Agricultural Commodities Programme (jointly implemented by CFC, FAO, ITC, World Bank and UNCTAD). The Guinea SPS project website would be linked (feed) into the Sustainability Claims Portal and therefore benefit greatly from the institutional competencies, resources and networks elsewhere in the ACP countries where the portal will be launched when fully developed beginning September 2009.

[xi] All project-generated documents, training modules, consultancy studies, publications, reports, and presentations (e.g. PowerPoint, video, movies, media clips, etc.) will be uploaded onto the projects website as well as linked to UNCTAD's Sustainability Claims Portal.