

STDF / LNV / World Bank

Workshop on “Public-Private Partnerships in Support of Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) Capacity”

4-6 October 2010

Bilderberg Hotel, Scheveningen
(The Hague), The Netherlands



WTO OMC



Background and rationale

The private sector is increasingly viewed as a great untapped resource for investment and innovation to achieve the Millennium Development Goals. Development agencies and governments are seeking more ways to work with private sector partners in an attempt to find innovative solutions to problems, attract additional resources and enhance impact and sustainability. Reflecting this trend, a large number of Public-Private Partnerships (PPPs) have emerged over the past decade to advance sustainable development in the areas of water, energy, infrastructure, health and agriculture.

While there are fewer documented PPPs in the food safety, plant and animal health (SPS) area, such partnerships do exist. Some bring together the public and private sector – at the international, regional, national and/or sub-national level – to address specific SPS capacity constraints and/or take advantage of market opportunities. These PPPs are sometimes part of larger initiatives focused on the development of agricultural value chains or market access. Other PPPs are centred on co-regulatory approaches “whereby the private sector provides infrastructure assets and services that traditionally have been provided by government” (OECD) within a regulatory framework established by national authorities.

Objectives of the workshop

This workshop – organized by the Standards and Trade Development Facility (STDF) in collaboration with the Dutch Ministry of Agriculture, Nature and Food Quality (LNV) and the World Bank – will consider the potential role and value of PPPs in facilitating agricultural development and market access, with a focus on PPPs in support of SPS capacity. It will foster an extensive dialogue across the public and private sector on the policy considerations and implementation issues related to such partnerships, considering drivers and working modalities, challenges, innovations and good practices. Experiences and lessons from both developed and developing countries will be presented and discussed.

Participants

Experts from international organizations, donor organizations, national government agencies and the private sector with experience in the area of agriculture, SPS and PPPs are invited to participate. The STDF has sponsored approximately 30 experts from developing countries to attend.

Programme

A Provisional Programme is available on the STDF website:

www.standardsfacility.org/TAPPP.htm

Key questions to be addressed during the workshop include:

- What key lessons can be drawn from successful – and less successful – PPPs focused on agricultural value chains and market access?
- What types of PPPs exist in the SPS area? How have they emerged and worked? What have been the experiences, challenges, innovations and results?
- What are the motivations and benefits of PPPs from the perspective of the public and private sector actors involved?
- What are the requirements for, and characteristics of, successful PPPs?
- How can PPPs in support of SPS capacity be encouraged most effectively in the future?

Excursion to the Port of Rotterdam, 6 October 2010, 08.00 – 14.00 hours

The Dutch Ministry of Agriculture is organizing an excursion to the Port of Rotterdam on 6 October. During a boat trip around the harbour, participants will see what happens when large shipments of food and agricultural imports arrive at Europe's largest seaport and principal centre for agri-business.

Representatives from the Port Authority and Dutch government inspectors working in the Port will make short presentations during the tour, highlighting cooperation with the private sector.



The Port of Rotterdam handles approximately 83 million metric tons of bulk cargoes per year, of which dry agri-bulk cargoes make up some 10 million metric tons. It works with several major agricultural trading houses, food processors, manufacturers, packers, transport/storage companies and service providers.

Registration

Individuals interested in participating should register using the form available on the STDF web site:

www.standardsfacility.org/TAPPP.htm

Seats for both the workshop and excursion are limited and will be assigned on a first come, first served basis, until capacity has been reached.

Hotels and local arrangements

Information about hotels near the workshop venue, including an online reservation service, is available at: www.chotelc.nl/workshop

Additional information on logistical arrangements is available on the STDF website: www.standardsfacility.org/TAPPP.htm

Expected Results

This workshop will generate new knowledge and information resources on a topic which has not been widely addressed. It will provide a basis to identify promising approaches, as well as potential opportunities, for new and/or expanded partnerships focused on SPS capacity building.

For more information, contact:

Standards and Trade Development Facility

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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). This leaflet has been prepared under the responsibility of the STDF Secretariat and does not necessarily reflect the views of STDF partners, donors or other participating organizations.