



STDF Working Group Meeting

SPS related project developments

29-30 October 2018

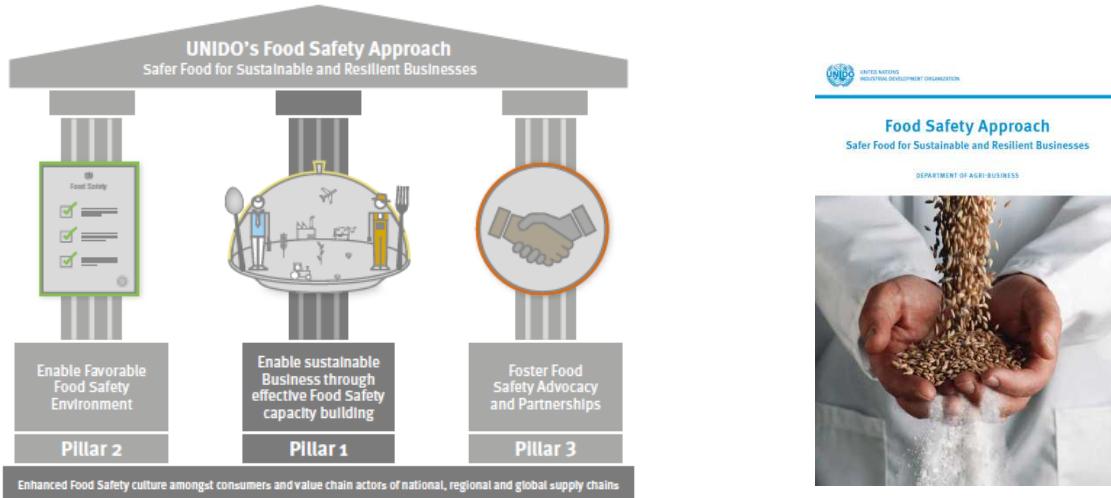
UNIDO's SPS-related projects and initiatives

Department of Agri-Business Development

PROJECT TITLE:	UNIDO's Food Safety Approach
COUNTRIES:	Global Forum
DONOR:	n.a.
THEMATIC AREAS:	Food Safety

Within UNIDO it is the Food Systems and Nutrition Division (FSN) of the Department of Agri-Business which has the task of developing and implementing UNIDO's food safety approach. This is reflected in the division's mandate to promote sustainable food systems that deliver food safety and nutrition security and improve the competitiveness of the agri-food processing sector through access to support services, markets and trade opportunities, while ensuring economic, social and environmental sustainability.

In this regard FSND published in July 2018 officially UNIDO's Food Safety Approach which defines UNIDO's food safety-related interventions and explains how UNIDO can leverage its capacity building initiatives, advisory and convening power, in a holistic and cohesive manner, to enable sustainable and resilient food and agri-food businesses. Therefore, it is a lever which ensures that the organization's food safety-related capacity development initiatives are effective and contribute fully, in a cohesive and holistic manner, to achieving inclusive and sustainable industrial development. Below an overview on the main pillars of UNIDO's Food Safety Approach:



Through implementing UNIDO's Food Safety Approach, calling to structure its food safety related interventions and integrate them within its overall industrial development agenda, the organization aims to ensure a cohesive and holistic approach for food safety as a means towards achieving its objective "safer food for sustainable and resilient businesses".

The approach has so far been published in English, and the Arabic, Chinese, French, and Spanish version are currently under finalization and will be made available to the STDF Secretariat to be uploaded to its virtual library.

PROJECT TITLE:	Enhance Regional Trade Capacities in food through Harmonized Regional Conformity Assessment and Food Safety Systems: “SAFE”
COUNTRIES:	Arab Region
DONOR:	Swedish International Development Agency (Sida)
THEMATIC AREAS:	Food Safety and Trade
SAFE INITIATIVES	
Country Support Programme to Egypt: <i>UNIDO's Support to the Egyptian National Food Safety Authority (NFSA)</i>	<p>Through an initiative entitled “Country Support Program on Food Safety”, SAFE provides direct technical support to individual countries to improve national food safety control systems following regionally harmonized policies and protocols and according to international best practices and agreements (SPS). The program was launched in Egypt, one of two initial pilot countries, with the objective of providing technical support to the Egyptian National Food Safety Authority (NFSA) under various support areas such as: policy advice, institutional capacity and governance, and human resource development, among others.</p> <p>Since the programme’s kick-off in 2017, a series of interventions were launched which led to the reform of the relevant legal framework, the sensitization of more than 400 officials from relevant authorities, the implementation of a pesticide monitoring plan across the country and capacity-building for national inspectors.</p>  <p><i>NFSA's team of core inspectors attending a 3-day training program on the “ServSafe” tool</i></p>
Pan-Arab Free Trade Area (PAFTA) National Workshops	<p>Since August 2018, SAFE is supporting the League of Arab States (LAS) in organizing a series of workshops across the Arab region, with the aim of bringing the process of integrating SPS/TBT provisions to the Pan-Arab Free Trade Area (PAFTA), a step closer to reality. The goal is to achieve convergence among all relevant authorities involved in SPS and TBT matters in the region and to voice the critical need for the establishment of SPS and TBT regimes in the Arab region.</p> <p>So far these national engagement workshops have already been implemented in 6 countries in the region and the generated recommendations are well received and collected by LAS and will ultimately be considered by LAS when it comes to the development and adoption of the PAFTA SPS and TBT provisions. Furthermore, they shall prepare relevant national authorities in the Arab region, to implement the provisions once they will be adopted.</p>

AOAD Regional Training Workshop on SPS	<p>In efforts to raise awareness on the on-going efforts to establish SPS and TBT regimes in the Arab regions, a training workshop has taken place on 10-13 September 2018, in Cairo, Egypt. The workshop was organized by the Arab Organization for Agricultural Development (AOAD) with the support of SAFE with the objectives of 1) strengthening the capacity of relevant national representatives in international best practices in SPS and 2) to stress on the importance of integrating an SPS file to preferential trade agreements, in particular to PAFTA.</p> <p>The workshop hosted speakers from regional and international organizations such as: AOAD, LAS, the Arab Industrial Development and Mining Organization (AIDMO), World Organization for Animal Health (OIE), and an international expert who presented the STDF. Over 32 officials from 13 Arab countries were trained and sensitized.</p>
Second Regional Codex Workshop	<p>Under the work plan of the Codex Expert Working Group, which is managed in partnership with FAO, a regional workshop was conducted on 20-21 September 2018, in Cairo, Egypt, with the aim of finalizing and adopting the final version of six regional Codex guidelines, which are to be utilized at regional and country levels for enhancing effectiveness and coordination, as well as strengthening Arab participation and involvement in Codex work.</p> <p>The workshop succeeded in bringing together concerned officials involved in Codex work at national level, and the technical discussions facilitated during the workshop managed to deliver a key outcome, which was the finalization of a series of regional Codex guides. In addition, discussions took place on how to enhance the effectiveness of the Codex work at national, regional and global levels, by jointly capitalizing on the new guides. A total of 12 national food safety authorities officials from 7 Arab countries contributed to this important initiative and were further trained.</p>
Country Needs Assessment: <i>Launching of two pilot countries to implement the needs assessments tool</i>	<p>In close collaboration with the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), SAFE is implementing two pilot programmes under a SAFE-led expert working group entitled “Country Needs Assessment”, tasked to translate and implement the existing FAO tool that assesses the status of the national regulatory framework for food safety and food control systems, in order to identify priorities for investment.</p> <p>After a voluntary application process to kick-start the pilot programmes, two countries, Tunisia and Sudan, were selected according to specified criteria, to assess their national food control systems using the needs assessment tool. The launching of the pilots will</p>



Participants of the AOAD Regional Training Workshop on SPS



Presentation by Ms. Mariam Eid, Codex Vice Chair

	start in November 2018.
--	-------------------------

PROJECT TITLE:	Food Safety Supervision Capacity Building for China
COUNTRIES:	China
DONOR:	Chinese Ministry of Commerce
THEMATIC AREAS:	Creating shared prosperity, Agribusiness and rural development

Having been implemented from 2015 to 2018, the project supported the Food Supervising Authority of China in the plan to strengthen its capacity through a series of pilot interventions taken, so as to serve the overall purpose of contributing to the improvement of food safety in China. The conducted activities and delivered results showed high relevance to the circumstances and requirements of China.

It also facilitated the communication and knowledge building on food safety regulatory theories and practices, broadened the view and understanding of China's trained inspectors, and accelerated the establishment of China's own pool of experts. Through the exposure to best international practices regarding food and dairy safety supervision, functioning in both public and private sectors, UNIDO and the counterparts could further explore and expand collaborations with other China domestic and global stakeholders.



Discussion alongside the equipment for dairy product processing following the HACCP approach

PROJECT TITLE:	UNIDO-CFDAIED Centers of Excellence (CoE)
COUNTRIES:	China
DONOR:	China International Center for Economic and Technical Exchanges (CICETE)
THEMATIC AREAS:	Creating shared prosperity, Agribusiness and rural development

The project "UNIDO-CFDAIED Centers of Excellence" (CoE) is expected to start in the 4th quarter of 2018 and targets the following outcomes: 1. CFDAIED is upgraded from a training provider to an institution owning the nation-wide harmonized food safety and drug safety training system and being able to facilitate and recognize local cooperating bodies; 2. Competency-based training system with a set of training qualifications is established to ensure quality management and credibility within the network of CoEs; and 3. The impact of the established CoE training system is effectively promoted and extended to the countries standing interested to South-South Cooperation and being part of the "Belt and Road" Initiative so as to facilitate the improvement of their food and drug capacity building and supervision. A total budget of USD 1 million (excl. support cost) will be invested to materialize the 1st project phase as the inception and to prepare for the long-term technical and institutional capacity building to promote the inclusive and sustainable food safety supervision and compliance system.

PROJECT TITLE:	SSDP mapping exercise and formulation of technical assistances in Pakistan
COUNTRIES:	Pakistan
DONOR:	ONE UN Fund
THEMATIC AREAS:	Food safety and quality, packaging, value addition

UNIDO is currently conducting a mapping exercise and analysis on the compliance capacities of local suppliers through a survey addressed to several local and international companies. The survey aims to shed light on the ongoing and future supply needs of these companies and the food safety compliance level and issues of the suppliers, following UNIDO's Sustainable Supplier Development Programme (SSDP) thematic approach. As an outcome of this mapping exercise, UNIDO will be in the position to define the required capacity building needs and scope of these local food producers and manufacturers.

Overall, UNIDO is involved in the formulation of two capacity building initiatives for Pakistan, where UNIDO will address food safety compliance issues of selected agri-food value chains in different provinces. Simultaneously the interventions will consider the adoption of adequate practices at enabling environment level, working together with several local stakeholders. For the upcoming STDF Working Group meeting, more information will be provided on the detailed scope of these interventions.



UNIDO visit to an agricultural training institute in Pakistan

PROJECT TITLE:	Technical Assistance on SPS and the Value-Chains to Improve Market Access for Small Scale / Artisanal Fisheries in West Africa
COUNTRIES:	Guinea, Ivory Coast, Mauritania and Senegal
DONOR:	STDF
THEMATIC AREAS:	Economic Competitiveness

The project aims to upgrade SPS standards and the value chain to facilitate access to regional and international markets for artisanal fishers in West Africa. It was funded by the STDF and implemented by UNIDO and the Governments of Côte d'Ivoire, Guinea, Mauritania and Senegal.

Project outcomes were achieved through the implementation of trainings and equipment, to facilitate SPS improvements of export value added to fisheries products. Study tours and regional exchanges were conducted, as well as the organization of cooperatives and groups with business linkages for access to regional and international markets for artisanal fisheries products.

As a result of UNIDO's technical assistance interventions, artisanal fishermen, fishmongers, women fish vendors and smokers, inspection and hygiene officers in factories and other trades involved in the manufacture of equipment in the four countries, acquired knowledge on the application of SPS controls required to access export markets.



PROJECT TITLE:	Strengthening Adaptive Capacities to Climate Change through Capacity Building for small scale Enterprises and Communities Dependent on Coastal Fisheries in The Gambia
COUNTRIES:	Gambia

DONOR:	Global Environmental Facility (GEF)
THEMATIC AREAS:	Creating shared prosperity, Environmental Sustainability
UNIDO is currently implementing a Project Preparatory Grant (PPG), in preparation for a full-scale project.	
<p>The project will focus on trade capacity building in the fisheries industry. It will aim to build capacities in the areas of: Hazard Analysis Critical Control Points (HACCP) based quality assurance systems, trade support services for implementation of sanitary, good hygiene and manufacturing practices, capacity building for industry compliances with international standards (SPS and Codex standards), updating codes of practice on fish quality and safety for improved inspections, and developing standard operating procedures (SOPs) for producers to reinforce enterprise competitiveness and overall CCA along the fisheries value chains.</p> <p>The involvement of export businesses acting as pilots and co-financing is anticipated. This will ensure that relevant actors are adequately aware of and addressing required quality assurance programmes. UNIDO will provide technical support to enterprises involved in export, to introduce tools which will mainstream export SPS considerations and promote a greater role of the private sector and export enterprises. Competent authorities will also gain the capacity to audit SPS and quality management systems.</p>	

Department of Trade Investment and Innovation

PROJECT TITLE:	Upgrading the Sudanese Sesame Seeds Value Chain
COUNTRIES:	Sudan
DONOR:	STDF
THEMATIC AREAS:	Competitive trade and CSR
<p>The project “Upgrading the Sudanese Sesame seeds value chain” which started its implementation in October 2018, will be implemented until September 2021 jointly with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and funded by the STDF.</p> <p>This project aims to increase export revenues of sesame-seed in Sudan by improving the quality of sesame-seed, increasing capacity to comply with food safety and phytosanitary requirements, and enhancing market access to value-added markets. The project encompasses a series of interventions, based on a value chain approach, involving stakeholders from sesame-seed farmers, post-harvest handlers, facility owners, exporters, cooperatives and sesame-seed producer/exporter associations, etc. Stakeholders in the sesame-seed value chain including small farmers (of which many are women) will play a key role in the implementation of activities. The project will engage public and private partnership for promoting sesame-seed exports to value added markets. Local government departments take responsibility in extension and training, and related Ministries are responsible for demonstrating compliance with the SPS requirements for trading partners.</p>	

PROJECT TITLE:	Quality Infrastructure for Trade Facilitation (QI4TF) Toolkit
COUNTRIES:	Global, piloted in Malawi, South Africa
DONOR:	Switzerland
THEMATIC AREAS:	Advancing Economic Competitiveness

In the effort to support the implementation of the WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement (TFA) in member countries, UNIDO is developing its Quality Infrastructure for Trade Facilitation (QI4TF) Toolkit, with funding from the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development. QI4TF aims to identify the technical gaps in the provision of national quality infrastructure systems that hinder the effective implementation of the TFA and proposes corrective measures in terms of capacity building, in both the immediate and medium-term. Overcoming these obstacles is key to demonstrating compliance with the WTO TFA, specifically articles 4.3, 5, 8 and 10.3.

QI4TF Toolkit is split in two parts aimed at measuring: 1) government and 2) industry capacity to facilitate exports. Each questionnaire in QI4TF1 and QI4TF2 aims to identify by sector and hierarchy the technical gaps in the NQIS that government and industry have to address in order for the industry to enter and compete in the international arena, by complying with the TBT and SPS Agreements.

The toolkit has been piloted in both Malawi (May 2018) and South Africa (Sept 2018), with the support of National Experts. Two workshops were held in each country, which brought together high-level public and private sector representatives to sensitize them on the toolkit and activities/data collection foreseen. The National experts have finalized the data collection activity and currently the data analysis and tool improvement phase is ongoing. Once the results of the tool are available, results workshops will be conducted in the respective countries, as well as the development of an electronic tool.



Participants during the Workshop on Trade Facilitation Toolkit, 29-30 May 2018, Malawi

PROJECT TITLE:	The Standards, Quality, Accreditation and Metrology (SQAM)
COUNTRIES:	Malawi
DONOR:	EU
THEMATIC AREAS:	Advancing Economic Competitiveness

The Standards, Quality, Accreditation and Metrology (SQAM) Project has contributed to the improvement of the Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) infrastructure in Malawi. UNIDO collaborated and implemented the component relating to the review of food safety legislation in Malawi, under the EU/UNDP/UNIDO SQAM project. Consultative meetings were done with various stakeholders and it turned out that a food safety law needed to be developed in Malawi.

UNIDO strengthened the Information Center of the National Enquiry Points (NEP) for the implementation of WTO Agreement on the application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures (SPS) and conducted training to support implementation of the Agreement. There are three SPS NEPs focal points in Malawi including the Notification Authority and they are as follows:

- a) Food Safety (Malawi Bureau of Standards, Blantyre),
- b) Animal Health (Ministry of Agriculture, Dept. Animal Health and Livestock, Lilongwe),
- c) Plant Protection (Ministry of Agriculture, Dept. Agric. Research Services, Lilongwe), and
- d) The National Notification Authority (Ministry of Industry, Trade and Tourism, Lilongwe).