



**FINDINGS & RECOMMENDATIONS**

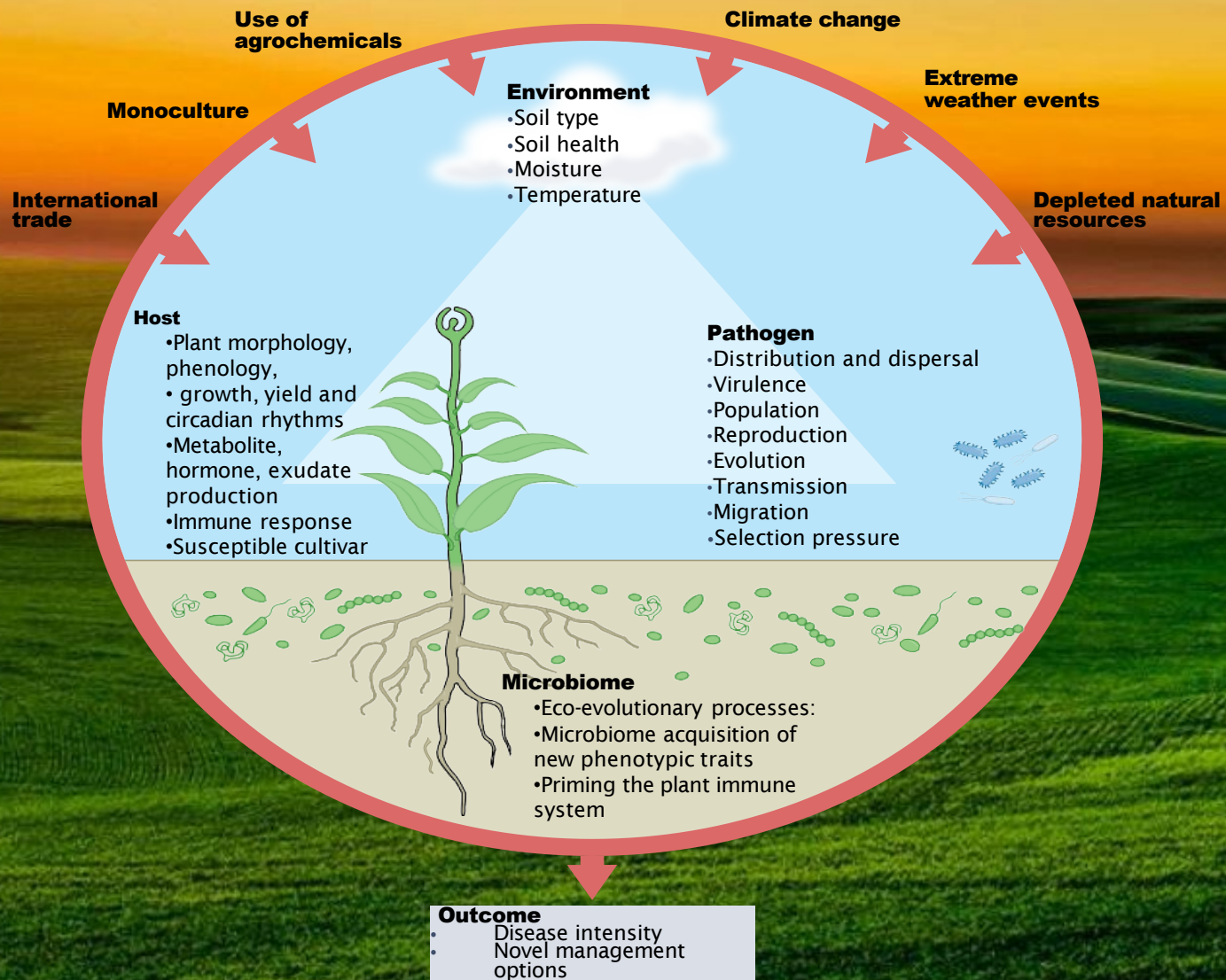
**STDF EXTERNAL LEARNING ASSESSMENT:  
ENVIRONMENT, BIODIVERSITY AND  
CLIMATE CHANGE**

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STANDARDS *and* TRADE  
DEVELOPMENT FACILITY

# CONTEXT



## CLIMATE RISKS (SOME EXAMPLES)

- Loss of Pollinators
- Expanded range of alien invasive species
- Shifting range for pathogens, pest and disease
- Extreme Weather –heat-moisture
- Drought

## EMERGING AREAS TO EXAMINE

- One Health
- Food systems
- Surveillance & Monitoring
- Early Warning System
- Climate Risk Assessment
- Policy/Capacities/Implementation in environment, biodiversity & climate change

## PURPOSE

- Assess and learn how (and to what effect) the environment, biodiversity and climate change has been integrated across STDF work
- Draw key findings, conclusions and recommendations to improve mainstreaming of the environment, biodiversity and climate change into STDF work in the future [including by learning from relevant work of STDF partners and other members]





# METHODOLOGY

## **DESK RESEARCH**

Review of more than 100 STDF and Working Group publications that relate to environment

## **REVIEW STDF PPGS & PROJECTS**

Review of 15 selected STDF projects and 10 PPGs (N=25)

Interviews with 27 implementing partners from projects and PPGs to examine aspects related to environment in STDF projects

## **STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT**

32 Key Informant Interviews with STDF Working Group (partners, donors, other members) and other relevant external organisations

## FINDINGS

### RELEVANCE

- STDF's work on environment responds to growing global and local concerns on issues and challenges related to the environment and climate change and has increased understanding about these synergies.
- STDF's knowledge and outreach work has clearly articulated why SPS capacity is relevant for the environment, and vice versa.
- STDF's global partnership is a trusted source of information that has facilitated dialogue and learning on trade and environment linkages, drawing on work of STDF founding partners.
- STDF's work on environment is relevant and in alignment with STDF's 2020-2024 Strategy, SPS Agreement (and MC-12 SPS Declaration), and UN's 2030 Agenda.

### COHERENCE

- STDF work on environment and climate is clearly focused on SPS issues and safe trade, complementary to and coherent with the work of STDF founding partners.
- STDF has been coherent in its approach to mainstreaming environment into knowledge products, funding mechanism and global outreach.

## FINDINGS

### EFFECTIVENESS

- Revisions of grant application forms to clearly identify issues related to the environment has encouraged more environment mainstreaming.
- 67% of projects and 40% of PPGs reviewed included aspects linked to environment to a significant or moderate extend.
- STDF Knowledge products and events recognized by partners and members to be highly informative and effective in showcasing how environment intersects with SPS and safe trade.
- Cross-cutting programme level indicators but could be better tracked with story gathering.

### EFFICIENCY

- STDF efficient at using existing (limited) resources and staff to address the environment, biodiversity and climate change nexus by embedding considerations into project development and reporting.
- Useful research and viewpoints on environment, biodiversity, climate change and safe trade that is part of the leading broader work on trade and environment to which other organisations also contribute to.



# FINDINGS

## IMPACT

- STDF is considered a pioneer in this area of SPS and environment thanks to its global outreach and knowledge work/products on the topic (including through the IAS and climate publications)
- Mainstreaming to date has led to selected projects influencing increased attention and synergies to environment (e.g. STDF/PG/502).
- STDF funding enables piloting innovative approaches to safe trade to be tested and scaled with funding from other donors.
- Increased connections and relationships between SPS and environment stakeholders and under regional MRL projects led to projects on biopesticides (as a nature positive solution)

## SUSTAINABILITY

- Mission relevant focus on SPS and Safe Trade linkages to environment, biodiversity and climate change.
- STDF's Global stakeholders support for STDF's efforts to mainstream environment have contributed to continued integration of environment.
- Imbedded in knowledge products, events, and projects.



## RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Continue to build on STDF convening power and status in SPS and safe trade community to further mainstream environment and for collaboration on emerging issues related to safe trade to provide a stronger collective response.
2. Set up a Practitioner Group on environment (of interested STDF partners, implementors, donors and other relevant stakeholders) to exchange experience, learning and guidance on environment mainstreaming in SPS capacity development.
3. Consider making environment more explicit in STDF projects with criteria for assessing how projects have taken environment mainstreaming into account during projects' review by the STDF's Secretariat.






## RECOMMENDATIONS

4. Improve tracking of current STDF environment indicators through better data collection and story gathering from project partners. Consider environment indicators for projects funded.
5. Develop an approach to communicate the environment benefits of SPS capacity development to help SPS authorities in developing countries identify and pursue new sources of financing from existing/new environment and climate funding streams (e.g. GEF, bilateral funding streams).

## MOVING FORWARD

- STDF is starting to see change and impacts, BUT more work is needed to capture, measure and report on these efforts.
- Greater attention to tracking STDF environment indicators internally and related to projects can provide better information to assess effectiveness and impact on environment mainstreaming in STDF.
- Awareness raising is key to influence behavior - need to see more evidence of changes in behavior and what the change is given this increased attention to environment.
- Consider strengthening capacities of staff to understand environment and safe trade to enable them to work with partners to help integrate this crossing cutting issue into projects.
- Remain intentional in developing mission focused relevant knowledge products, capacity building and projects that reduce impact and increase benefits for environment through SPS compliance and safe trade.
- Deepening environment in STDF Secretariat may require budget and staff dedicated to the cross-cutting issue



# Q&A

QUESTIONS, THOUGHTS, INPUTS?

**THANK YOU**

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