



STANDARDS *and* TRADE
DEVELOPMENT FACILITY

STDF ANNUAL REPORT 2024

DRIVING CHANGE: PATHWAYS TO TRADING SAFELY



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations



WORLD BANK GROUP



World Health
Organization



World Organisation
for Animal Health
Founded as OIE



WORLD TRADE
ORGANIZATION

SUSTAINABLE ECONOMIC GROWTH,

poverty
reduction,
and
food
security

Supporting the UN Global Goals



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OVERVIEW

SAFE *trade* JOURNEY

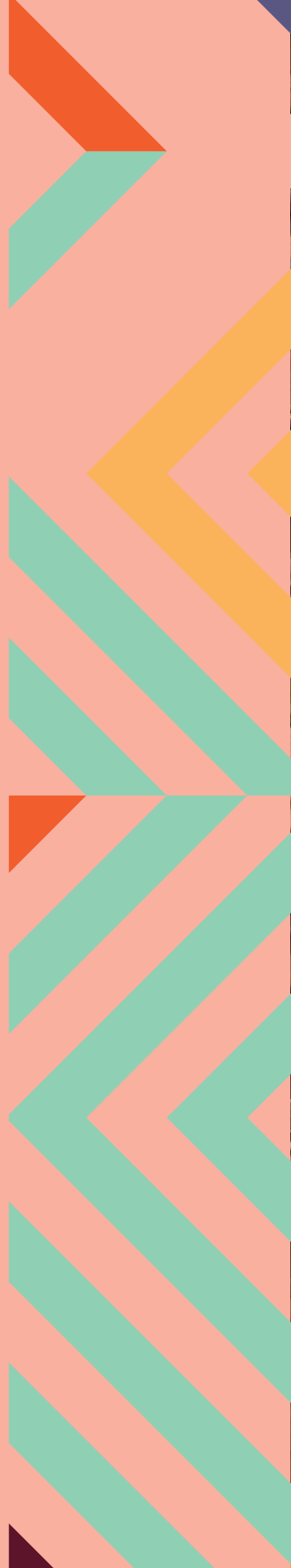
CONVENING *in* 2024

INNOVATING *in* 2024

CATALYSING *in* 2024

LEARNING *in* 2024

OVERVIEW





LETTER FROM THE WORKING GROUP CHAIR



Sarah Brunel
Implementation and Facilitation
Unit Lead, IPPC Secretariat

It was an honour to serve as Chair of the Standards and Trade Development Facility (STDF), a unique and valued global partnership at the intersection of trade, health, and agriculture. With its strong focus on promoting safe trade and supporting developing countries in meeting international sanitary and phytosanitary (SPS) standards, the STDF plays a vital role in advancing food security, economic growth, and sustainable development.

As a long-standing member of the plant health community, I have witnessed first-hand how the STDF fosters collaboration, innovation, and practical solutions to SPS challenges. The Facility brings together experts from across the FAO, WOA, the World Bank, WHO, WTO, the IPPC and Codex, and other stakeholders, in a space that is both strategic and collegial. This inclusive environment enables the kind of cross-sector thinking that is essential to navigating persistent risks and emerging threats in agriculture and trade.

During my tenure as Chair, I was particularly proud of how the Working Group tackled key themes such as electronic certification, public-private partnerships, or robust monitoring, evaluation and learning, to quote a few. These discussions are not theoretical — they translate into real-world tools and approaches that help countries modernize their SPS systems, improve transparency, and build trust in trade relationships.

One of the highlights for me was the Working Group's review of a wide array of innovative and high-quality project proposals, many of which go on to strengthen SPS capacity in low- and middle-income countries. I was especially pleased to see the continued impact of STDF support in plant health through the promotion of initiatives such as the IPPC ePhyto Solution and efforts to scale up Phytosanitary Capacity Evaluations and their impact on safe trade.

The STDF is not just a funding mechanism — it is a knowledge hub, a convenor, and a catalyst for innovation. I encourage all stakeholders, particularly those working at the crossroads of food safety, plant and animal health, trade, and development, to engage with the STDF and contribute to its Strategy 2025–2030. Its mission is as urgent and relevant as ever.

Looking back, 2024 was a milestone year for the STDF's global partnership. The theme of driving change underpins this year's annual report, and we invite you to look back on what we have collectively achieved and also ahead to how we work together to drive future pathways to trading safely.

MESSAGE FROM THE STDF TEAM

We celebrated our 20th anniversary event with our partners in November at the WTO, at the same time as commemorating 30 years of the WTO SPS Agreement. Our flagship anniversary publication showcased STDF's evolution and results over the last two decades. Alongside this, a new photography exhibition of people and places across the globe highlighted STDF projects, knowledge exchange and cooperation in action.

During the June Working Group, we bid a fond farewell to Melvin Spreij who, as Head of the Secretariat since 2009, was at the forefront of the global Facility we represent today. On behalf of the partnership, we wish him the best on his secondment to the World Bank.

This year also saw the publication of an external evaluation of the STDF, covering the 2020-2024 Strategy period, which was widely welcomed by STDF's network. The evaluation report showcased how "the STDF has consistently demonstrated its ability to deliver measurable results, significantly enhancing market access for developing countries." With these strong foundations, work got underway to develop the 2025-2030 Strategy. This drew on shared insights and expertise from the STDF Partners' retreat held in June, alongside the Strategy workshop and consultations run over the course of the year.

We remain highly appreciative of the trust placed in us by our donors, founding partners and wide partnership of expert members. While the landscape of aid may be changing, the STDF remains committed to supporting developing countries with innovative SPS solutions that enable them to benefit more from trade. At the same time, we are increasing our efforts to leverage investments, strengthen MEL and risk management, and mobilize further partnerships for stronger and more sustainable results. We look forward to continuing this journey together.

STDF 2024 RESULTS HIGHLIGHTS

Goal*:
Increased
and sustainable
SPS capacity
in developing
countries



STDF INITIATIVES AND PROJECTS/PPGS CONTRIBUTED TO:

Improved food safety, animal and plant health measures for trade in 11 countries

Changes in SPS legislation, regulation, policies, strategies, structures, processes in 19 countries (with a focus on environment/biodiversity/climate change in 17 countries and gender equality in 1 country)

Facilitating market access and exports/imports through 26 MoUs between FBOs and exporters/traders in 1 country; 4 farmer groups with increased financial returns in 3 countries, and actors supported import/export in 4 other countries

*Based on the theory of change in the 2020-2024 Strategy



Outcome 1*:
More synergies
and collaboration
driving catalytic
SPS improvements
in developing
countries

Value of new investments leveraged from
2004-2024: US\$42.1M (+4% from 2004-2023)

Networks supporting delivery of change
in SPS systems: 35 networks/groups established
including 1 linked to environment mainstreaming

Adaptation, replication, scaling of STDF
approaches in 11 countries

Coordination of SPS capacity development
interventions by Working Group: 7 cases



Outcome 2*:
Greater access
to, and use of,
good practices and
knowledge products
at global, regional
and national level

Reach of STDF good practices/knowledge:
10,180+ people trained including women and
youth in over 60 countries

Knowledge products: 230+ knowledge and
comms/outreach products completed and/or
published through STDF funded initiatives

Uptake and application of STDF good practices:
5 knowledge products/approaches

STDF IN ACTION IN 2024

PROJECTS/PPGs

29

STDF projects ongoing on food safety, animal and plant health, with STDF funding of over US\$16 million

16

ongoing STDF PPGs on food safety, animal and plant health, with STDF funding of over US\$0.75 million

8

projects completed

7

PPGs completed

US\$ 5.1 MILLION

approved for 7 new projects and 6 PPGs

120

applications received for funding

63%

of funds allocated to new Projects/PPGs benefit LDCs (above 40% target).

KNOWLEDGE WORK

4

knowledge topics (eCert, PPPs, P-IMA, GRPs) covered, supported by 3 Practitioner Groups (eCert, PPPs, P-IMA)

5

new publications: STDF Strategy 2025-2030; STDF: 20 years of safe trade for sustainable development; STDF External Learning Assessment - Environment, Biodiversity & Climate Change; Public-private partnerships for improved SPS systems and safe trade facilitation; Briefing on SPS eCertification

FUNDING

11

Donors

US\$ 7.62 MILLION

Multi-annual agreements: 8 / Annual agreements: 3

GLOBAL PLATFORM

2

Working Group meetings
with 85+ members in total;
1 Policy Committee meeting

6

developing country experts

OUTREACH

6,300+

stakeholders (including governments, industry,
international/regional organizations) reached at 60+ events

15

e-news sent out to 3,820+ subscribers

2024 PROJECTS AND PPGs

STDF project and project preparation grants (PPGs) convene and connect public, private and other stakeholders at global, regional and country level to pilot innovative and collaborative approaches, leverage expertise and resources, and deliver results, including in least-developed countries (LDCs), land-locked developing countries and small island developing states.

AFRICA

1. STRENGTHENING GUINEA'S PHYTOSANITARY SYSTEM
2. IMPROVING THE SAFETY OF SMOKED FISH IN MALI
3. PILOTING THE USE OF VOLUNTARY THIRD-PARTY ASSURANCE (TPA) PROGRAMME IN AFRICA TO IMPROVE FOOD SAFETY OUTCOMES FOR PUBLIC HEALTH AND TRADE
4. IMPROVING SHELLFISH SAFETY IN SENEGAL TO BOOST MARKET ACCESS
5. HARMONIZING REGULATIONS AND MITIGATING PESTICIDE RESIDUES IN THE SADC REGION
6. ACCREDITED MOBILE LABORATORY FOR FOOD SAFETY TESTING IN THE SADC REGION
7. HARMONIZING THE PHYTOSANITARY LEGISLATIVE FRAMEWORK IN CENTRAL AFRICA
8. USING DIGITAL TOOLS TO FACILITATE SAFE FOOD TRADE IN WEST AFRICA
9. ENHANCING AFLATOXIN MANAGEMENT IN GHANA'S MAIZE AND GROUNDNUTS
10. IMPROVING SPS COMPLIANCE OF SMALL-SCALE CROSS BORDER TRADERS IN MALAWI, TANZANIA AND ZAMBIA
11. MANAGING SCALE INSECTS IN FRESH FRUITS IN EAST AFRICA
12. MANAGING INVASIVE POTATO PESTS IN EASTERN AND SOUTHERN AFRICA
13. EVALUATING PHYTOSANITARY CAPACITY TO IMPROVE THE PLANT HEALTH SYSTEM IN NIGERIA
14. PILOTING A VTPA PROGRAMME IN EAST AFRICA TO IMPROVE FOOD SAFETY IN HORTICULTURE AND FISHERIES
15. IMPROVING SPS COMPLIANCE TO BOOST NIGERIA'S EXPORT CAPACITY
16. SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF AFLATOXINS AND IN MAIZE GRAIN USING SYSTEMS APPROACH IN UGANDA
17. STRENGTHENING BURKINA FASO'S SESAME AND CASHEW EXPORT CAPACITY
18. ENHANCING FOOD SAFETY CONTROL CAPACITIES IN CAPE VERDE
19. IMPROVING FOOD SAFETY AND MARKET ACCESS IN GHANA'S SPICE VALUE CHAIN
20. SCALING UP THE P-IMA TOOL IN THE GAMBIA
21. PROMOTING LIVE ANIMAL TRADE AND EXPORT IN EASTERN AFRICA
22. EVALUATING ETHIOPIA'S PHYTOSANITARY CAPACITY
23. STRENGTHENING PHYTOSANITARY CAPACITY TO PROMOTE EXPORTS OF HORTICULTURE PRODUCTS FROM SENEGAL

24. ASSESSING THE CENTRE OF PHYTOSANITARY EXCELLENCE (COPE) TO SCALE PHYTOSANITARY CAPACITY AND INCREASE MARKET ACCESS IN AFRICA
25. IMPROVING SPS PRACTICES IN CACAO IN CAMEROON
26. ENHANCING COMPLIANCE WITH SANITARY STANDARDS TO DEVELOP THE MEAT VALUE CHAIN IN CHAD

ASIA AND PACIFIC

27. STRENGTHENING THE SPICE VALUE CHAIN IN INDIA TO IMPROVE MARKET ACCESS
28. EXPANDING COCOA TRADE IN PAPUA NEW GUINEA
29. ENHANCING CAPACITY FOR FOOD SAFETY MANAGEMENT IN THE KYRGYZ FRUIT AND VEGETABLE INDUSTRY
30. SAFER SPICES: BOOSTING FOOD SAFETY AND MARKET ACCESS FOR THE PEPPERCORN VALUE CHAIN
31. STRENGTHENING REGULATORY IMPACT ASSESSMENT (RIA) IMPLEMENTATION TO FACILITATE SAFE TRADE OF MEAT AND MEAT PRODUCTS IN THE PHILIPPINES
32. MODERNIZING BHUTAN'S BORDER MANAGEMENT ECOSYSTEM TO FACILITATE SAFE AGRI-FOOD TRADE
33. STRENGTHENING PHYTOSANITARY COMPLIANCE TO BOOST SEED TRADE IN THE ASIA PACIFIC
34. MORE EFFICIENT AUDIT AND VERIFICATION PRACTICES TO FACILITATE FOOD TRADE IN CAMBODIA, INDONESIA AND THE PHILIPPINES
35. IMPROVING PIG BIOSECURITY AND AFRICAN SWINE FEVER (ASF) CONTROL IN 4 ASEAN COUNTRIES
36. IMPROVING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF SPS BEST PRACTICES FOR EXPORT-ORIENTED VEGETABLES IN BANGLADESH
37. MANAGING AFLATOXIN CONTAMINATION IN ASIA USING ONE HEALTH
38. REDUCING HISTAMINES IN POLE AND LINE CAUGHT TUNA IN INDONESIA
39. ADVANCING APICULTURE FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT IN THE PACIFIC ISLANDS
40. PACIFIC BEEKEEPING ENABLING ENVIRONMENT (BEE)
41. PREPARATION OF A PROJECT PROPOSAL TO FACILITATE MARKET ACCESS THROUGH ENHANCING PHYTOSANITARY CAPACITY IN UZBEKISTAN
42. PREPARING A PROJECT TO STRENGTHEN THE NATIONAL FOOD SAFETY CONTROL SYSTEM IN UZBEKISTAN
43. PROMOTING MARKET ACCESS IN THE CASHEW NUT VALUE CHAIN IN CAMBODIA AND VIET NAM

44. MITIGATING AFLATOXIN CONTAMINATION IN PEANUTS IN INDIA

LATIN AMERICA AND CARIBBEAN

45. COORDINATING MANAGEMENT OF CADMIUM LEVELS IN COCOA IN LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN
46. MITIGATING HIGH LEVELS OF CADMIUM IN CACAO IN COLOMBIA AND ECUADOR
47. PILOTING THE USE OF THIRD-PARTY ASSURANCE (TPA) PROGRAMME IN CENTRAL AMERICA TO IMPROVE FOOD SAFETY OUTCOMES FOR PUBLIC HEALTH AND TRADE
48. IMPROVING FOOD SAFETY RISK ANALYSIS CAPACITY IN LATIN AMERICA
49. PRIORITIZING SPS INVESTMENTS IN THE CARIBBEAN USING THE P-IMA TOOL
50. STRENGTHENING THE PHYTOSANITARY AND FOOD SAFETY SYSTEM IN KEY VALUE CHAINS
51. MITIGATING PESTICIDE RESIDUES IN LATIN AMERICA USING BIOPESTICIDES
52. ENHANCING FOOD SAFETY CAPACITY OF THE PEPPER VALUE CHAIN IN JAMAICA TO INCREASE MARKET ACCESS
53. REGIONAL CENTER FOR PHYTOSANITARY INTELLIGENCE OF THE ANDEAN COMMUNITY
54. ENHANCING MULTILATERAL E-VETERINARY CERTIFICATION IN LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN
55. ENHANCING SPS CAPACITY AND MARKET ACCESS FOR GRENADIAN SOURSOP EXPORTS
56. IMPROVING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF FOOD SAFETY STANDARDS IN SAINT LUCIA
57. STRENGTHENING SURVEILLANCE AND RISK MANAGEMENT OF AVIAN INFLUENZA FOR SAFE TRADE IN THE SICA REGION

GLOBAL

58. IMPROVING THE USE OF THE EPING SPS&TBT PLATFORM TO ENHANCE TRANSPARENCY FOR MARKET ACCESS





GENERAL SPS



FOOD SAFETY

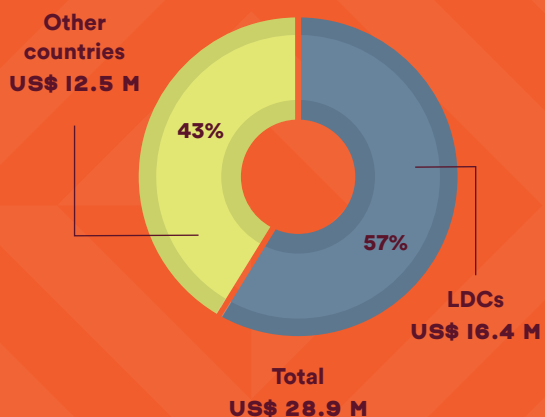


ANIMAL HEALTH

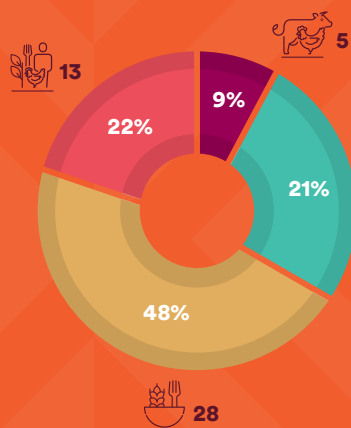


PLANT HEALTH

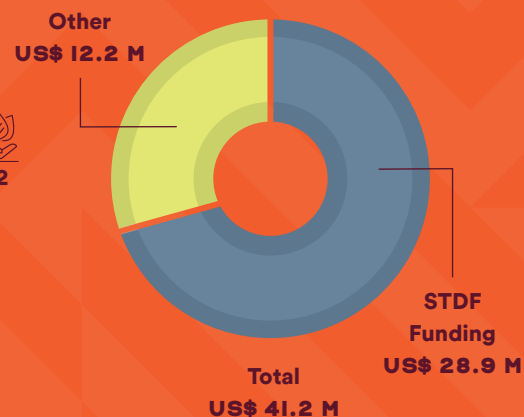
LDCs BENEFIT MOST FROM STDF RESOURCES (US\$ M)



PROJECTS & PPGs BY SECTOR



PROJECT & PPG FUNDING (US\$ M)



LESSONS: DRIVING CHANGE INTO THE FUTURE

Leveraging and scaling investments to widen impact worldwide

The world of ODA is changing, marked by sudden reductions in aid budgets alongside shifting government priorities in response to current geopolitical and economic pressures. Yet, as highlighted in STDF's 2024 external evaluation, demand from stakeholders in developing countries continues to grow for support to address food safety, plant and animal health challenges and advance trade and development goals. Under the 2025-2030 Strategy, the STDF will deepen its focus on innovation and scaling to further maximize the added value of its partnership and Trust Fund resources so that more actors in developing countries can benefit. This will include attention to leverage financing and investments for SPS capacity development from national governments in developing countries, as well as the private sector and other non-traditional sources. Representing a step-change for STDF's operations, this shift will require time and effort to set up and roll out across the partnership, with targeted results tracking essential to understand progress and adapt.

Strengthening MEL and risk management underpinning delivery

Reflecting changes in the aid landscape, donors continue to emphasize the importance of robust results-based management systems, including strong fiduciary safeguarding and risk management. The STDF's external evaluation recognized that while progress has been made on MEL, more can be done to improve further. Revision of the MEL Framework based on the 2025-2030 Strategy offers an opportunity to work closely with the partnership

to improve results monitoring and reporting, and strengthen risk management, that is fit for purpose while remaining practical and cost-effective. This is necessary to ensure enhanced accountability and learning, while tracking the impact of STDF work on cross-cutting issues linked to gender and environment, including for those on the margins of agri-food systems and trade.

Mobilizing strategic partnerships for stronger, sustainable results

Against a backdrop of worldwide instability, the strong partnership at the heart of the STDF represents its most important asset. Moving forward, collaboration across like-minded actors with a commitment to safe trade facilitation is more important than ever. This was evident in the engagement of STDF members at the Partner retreat and Strategy workshop in 2024. It is also visible in donors and others – from Australia to GIZ and CABI – linking and integrating STDF initiatives in their own programming to further embed and expand results. Going forward, there are many more cases where this can be done. As highlighted in the 2025-2030 Strategy, energizing and mobilizing members across STDF's network is critical to take advantage of opportunities and deliver win-win benefits. Moving ahead, this will also include STDF's alumni of developing country experts acting as ambassadors and knowledge brokers in the regions and a deepened private sector dialogue that builds public-private partnerships for greater impact on the ground.



SAFE TRADE JOURNEY

“

For two decades, the STDF's global partnership has successfully provided pathways to trading safely, enabling communities around the world to use trade to sustain inclusive development and growth. STDF's support has helped small-scale producers in Africa, Asia and the Pacific, Latin America and the Caribbean meet standards and start exporting to regional and international markets, contributing to higher earnings and job creation, including for women and youth; supporting poverty reduction and food security; and creating 'win-wins' for development and the environment.

**Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala,
WTO Director-General**





STDF@20

The STDF celebrated its 20th anniversary in 2024, marked by a special event hosted at the WTO on 14 November, which at the same time commemorated 30 years of the WTO SPS Agreement. The reception was attended by over 100 SPS Committee delegates and representatives from STDF's global partnership and opened by Ambassador Audrey Goosen of The Netherlands and WTO Agriculture and Commodities Division Director Edwini Kessie.

The event was held against the backdrop of a large-scale STDF photo exhibition of over 20 images and testimonials from some of the many farmers, MSMEs, government officials and partners who have contributed to, and benefitted from, STDF projects, knowledge work and the global platform. The exhibition is on the road in 2025 travelling to Canberra, Bonn, Rome, Washington DC and beyond as partners and donors share the stories and voices of positive change being driven by the STDF.

To coincide with this important milestone, a new STDF publication looking back on 20 years of safe trade for sustainable development was released. The product showcases the collection of innovative and collaborative results delivered through STDF's portfolio in Africa, Asia-Pacific and Latin America and the Caribbean as well as the wealth of knowledge resources advancing safe trade solutions from gender and environment mainstreaming to public-private partnerships and eCert. The publication also highlights STDF's evolution over the last two decades with a spotlight on partnership growth, results tracking and ongoing adaptation.

- “ *The STDF has been operating for over two decades, providing a clear pathway to trading safely, sustaining development and growth across communities and countries worldwide. From a small collection of projects... the Facility has evolved into a global platform, knowledge hub, and innovation catalyst funding 250 projects and project preparation grants to date.*
- “ *Evaluations show that generous donor support to the STDF provides a significant return on investment that is levelling the playing field, including for LDCs that receive over 40% of the support.*



[20 years of safe trade for sustainable development](#)



External Evaluation of the STDF, 2024

- “ *STDF has increased SPS capacity in developing countries as measured through contributions to legislation, strategies, structures and/or processes relating to SPS, and improved implementation of trade-focused measures for enforcement of food safety, plant and animal health.* ”
- “ *The STDF has met both of its programmatic objectives by delivering significant and tangible results, across all three work streams and the target countries and sectors that have benefitted from STDF support have seen stronger export growth in plants, animals and foods than their comparators.* ”

STDF EVALUATION

An external evaluation of the STDF was published in May 2024, taking an in-depth look at the overall performance of STDF’s global partnership across all its work areas in the period between 2020-2024. The report includes three impact evaluations of STDF projects benefitting countries in Central America, Southern Africa and Southeast Asia. The evaluation was carried out by Project Economics Consulting over a period of eight months and is the fifth evaluation of the Facility to date. Findings highlight STDF’s continued relevance in a changing world and show that stakeholders are highly satisfied with progress and performance. The report underscores how STDF work aligns closely with that of its partners and other safe trade initiatives and sets out six strategic recommendations to strengthen the partnership and shape STDF’s future direction.

An STDF Policy Committee was held on 12 June to review the evaluation findings and recommendations. Attended by 11 representatives of partners, donors and developing country experts and 18 observers, the Committee accepted five of the six recommendations for follow-up in the Working Group. Chaired by WTO Deputy Director-General Jean-Marie Paugam, members affirmed the value of harnessing opportunities to strengthen STDF’s global partnership via the 2025-2030 Strategy.

STDF GLOBAL PARTNERSHIP





2024 VOICES

Founding Partner voices

Through its knowledge platform, projects and exploring innovation, supporting developing countries to adhere to international standards, STDF contributes to inclusiveness, resilience and sustainability amidst climate change, dynamic transformation, and challenges of modern agrifood systems.

Maximo Torero Cullen, Chief Economist, FAO

We are proud to have been part of STDF's successful evolution to become a global coordination and knowledge hub to address persistent and emerging SPS challenges. In this way, the STDF provides a pathway to food security and economic development for many countries worldwide.

Monserrat Arroyo, Deputy Director General, WOA

Capacity building for effective implementation of harmonized standards is essential for growth opportunities. STDF's projects complement the World Bank's work in agriculture, private sector development, trade facilitation and digitalization.

Mona Haddad, Global Director for Trade, Investment and Competitiveness, World Bank Group

This partnership has effectively addressed SPS challenges, reducing trade barriers and supporting economic growth. Importantly, STDF's work on integrating gender perspectives based on the Gender Action Plan is setting the path to ensure food safety systems are more inclusive, recognizing women's significant role.

Ailan Li, Assistant Director-General, WHO

The STDF's work in support of safe trade facilitation has helped developing country governments and the private sector, including MSMEs, to participate in, and benefit, from trade. Through its project portfolio, knowledge work and global platform, the Facility strongly supports the WTO's Aid for Trade agenda. Crucially, it has helped small-scale producers export to regional and international markets.

Jean-Marie Paugam, Deputy Director-General, WTO

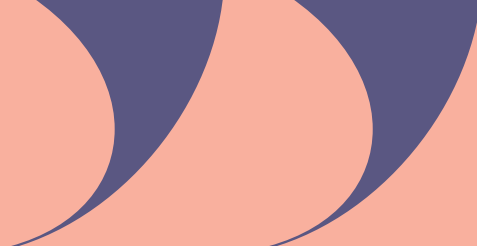
Development Partner voices

STDF's work to strengthen farmers', producers' and traders' access to international food markets helps boost food security by facilitating trade flows while offering the potential to improve income opportunities for communities. Supporting and strengthening synergies between trade and development cooperation is a key part of [our] reform agenda and STDF's work is well aligned.

Benjamin Dousa, Minister for International Development Cooperation and Foreign Trade, Sweden

Canada has a role to play when it comes to supporting efforts to improve food security, reduce poverty, and promote sustainable economic growth around the world. This investment will create opportunities for developing countries to enhance trading relationships and competitiveness, while supporting a safe and secure global food system.

Lawrence MacAulay, Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food, Canada



This donation underscores Ireland's long-standing commitment to the Standards and Trade Development Facility's mission... Ireland is proud to support the important work of STDF in building safe, sustainable and inclusive global trade.

Sean Fleming, Minister of State with responsibility for International Development and Diaspora, Ireland

Norway is happy to continue our long-standing support for the STDF. No doubt about it, the STDF is efficient in assisting developing and least developed members access global markets, strengthening their compliance with international sanitary and phytosanitary standards. **Ambassador Peter Ølberg of Norway to the WTO**

We are pleased to expand our collaboration with the STDF to support our partners in their efforts to create the conditions needed for participating in agricultural trade and reaping its benefits for sustainable economic growth, poverty reduction and food security for all.

Svenja Schulze, Federal Minister for Economic Cooperation and Development, Germany

The multilateral trading system is stronger when all WTO members can benefit from it. Finland's support to the [STDF]... aims to enable developing countries, particularly LDCs, to fully participate in multilateral trade so that they may improve their development and economic prospects.

Ambassador Heidi Schroderus-Fox of Finland to the WTO

The WTO SPS Agreement... encourages the use of good practices... to facilitate safe trade worldwide. The Netherlands is proud to be a co-founder of STDF, supporting farmers and food traders in developing countries to meet food safety standards in order to achieve the sustainability goals of Zero Hunger and Ending Poverty.

Ambassador Audrey Goosen of The Netherlands to the WTO

France is happy and proud to be one of the contributors to the STDF. Cooperation is one of the key words to underline what STDF is doing... What we see with the [SADC] project [for example] is that it creates incentives to find impactful and successful solutions **Maria Cosme, DG Trésor, Ministry of Economy and Finance, France**

As donors and partners, we each have our own priorities and interests for SPS capacity development and trade facilitation. While these may differ, STDF brings us together because of our shared goals. That's the value add of the STDF's partnership.

Nicola Bauman, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT), Australia

ODA is changing. Donors like the EU place more emphasis on the importance of investments to address development challenges. This makes it even more important to work with the private sector and new partners and prioritize attention to leveraging and scaling.

Martijn Boelen, Directorate-General for International Partnerships (INTPA), European Commission

We have sought intentional synergies with STDF's work, from engagement in STDF's regional biopesticide projects and the new eVet project in Latin America and the Caribbean to piloting the STDF GRP Guide in Africa. This collaboration spreads SPS knowledge and good practices more widely and also strengthens our work.

Jill Luxemburg, U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA)

Developing Country Experts' voices

Developing country experts play a vital role in STDF by ensuring applications are demand-driven, conducting outreach and connecting with regional and national SPS capacity development programmes. The new Strategy empowers developing countries to overcome SPS obstacles. It's a roadmap for safer, more inclusive and prosperous trade.

Rommel Betancourt, STDF Developing Country Expert

The STDF's PPP webinar has been really successful. We've had [private sector and regional blocs] sharing their experience, highlighting some of the challenges but also strengths. We've had participants from all over Africa. It's a good forum to share what's happening in other RECs and identify best practices on public-private partnerships that really drive the agenda.

MaryLucy Oronje, STDF Developing Country Expert

The 2025-2030 Strategy presents a renewed opportunity to harness potential for LDCs and developing countries. It provides a platform to connect with stakeholders to exchange experience and identify collaborative opportunities. The Philippines is working on a proposal on GAPs involving four ASEAN members, drawing from STDF's peppercorn project.

Mary Grace Mandigma, STDF Developing Country Expert

This new STDF publication provides practical guidance, highlighting that people are central to PPPs. Success lies in valuing differences and fostering collaboration among diverse perspectives. There is no one-size-fits-all formula.

Jaime Romero, STDF Developing Country Expert

Ensuring food safety, animal and plant health are all founded on the environment. We need criteria and guidance to mainstream environment protection measures in SPS capacity development projects where it's relevant in order to strengthen results and create win-wins.

Martin Kimanya, STDF Developing Country Expert

Small island states in the Pacific face unique SPS challenges, including limited resources, geographic isolation, and the growing impacts of climate change. I'm excited to contribute where I can to support countries across the region in strengthening biosecurity systems and advancing integrated One Health approaches to help mitigate some of these challenges.

Nime Kapo, STDF Developing Country Expert





STDF Strategy 2025-2030

“The aim with this new strategy is to support resilient and inclusive trade systems that not only meet safety and quality standards but also leverage regional strengths, innovation and public private partnership for impactful work. This approach will help unlock sustainable solutions in plant health, animal health, and food safety that address real needs on the ground.

Sarah Brunel, Chair of the STDF Working Group in 2024

In 2024, the new STDF Strategy for 2025-2030 was developed through an open, collaborative and participatory process. A retreat of STDF founding partners took place on 19 June in Geneva, prior to the first Strategy workshop on 20 June attended by 49 members, in addition to a dedicated session in November. There were also online consultations in September and October ahead of Working Group and Policy Committee approval of the Strategy in December.

The consensus among members was that the Strategy should build on the previous Strategy and 20 years of STDF results, maintaining a sharp focus on international standards so that more people can benefit from safe trade facilitation. At the same time, there was recognition that the Facility needed to be agile and adaptive in a changing world. This included positioning the global partnership to respond to relevant global trends shaping SPS capacity development – spanning new and more complex risks to digitalization and food systems transformation – as well as to take forward the lessons and recommendations in the 2024 independent external evaluation.

The STDF's goal and impact are strongly aligned to the WTO SPS Agreement and SPS Committee and the publication highlights the importance of reinforcing these interactions and synergies. At the same time as underscoring the value of mainstreaming gender and environment, the Strategy sets out how to deepen public-private sector collaboration, strengthen regional links and benefit more from STDF's network of developing country experts. It also includes new work on innovation and scaling to mobilize increased investments for SPS systems and drive transformational change.

Donors' commitments to the STDF remain an essential component in the delivery of the Strategy. Through donor financing, expertise and support, the STDF partnership is set to achieve even stronger sustainable results that can continue to benefit more people in developing countries

THEORY OF CHANGE 2025-2030

PROMOTING SUSTAINABLE ECONOMIC GROWTH,
POVERTY REDUCTION, FOOD SECURITY AND
RESILIENCE TO CLIMATE CHANGE



SAFE TRADE FACILITATED



PROGRAMME GOAL

Increased and sustained SPS capacity of public and private
sector stakeholders in developing countries



OUTCOME 1

Increased uptake of SPS
good practices and knowledge
products at national,
regional and global level



OUTCOME 2

Catalytic SPS
improvements at national,
regional and global level driven
by STDF's partnership

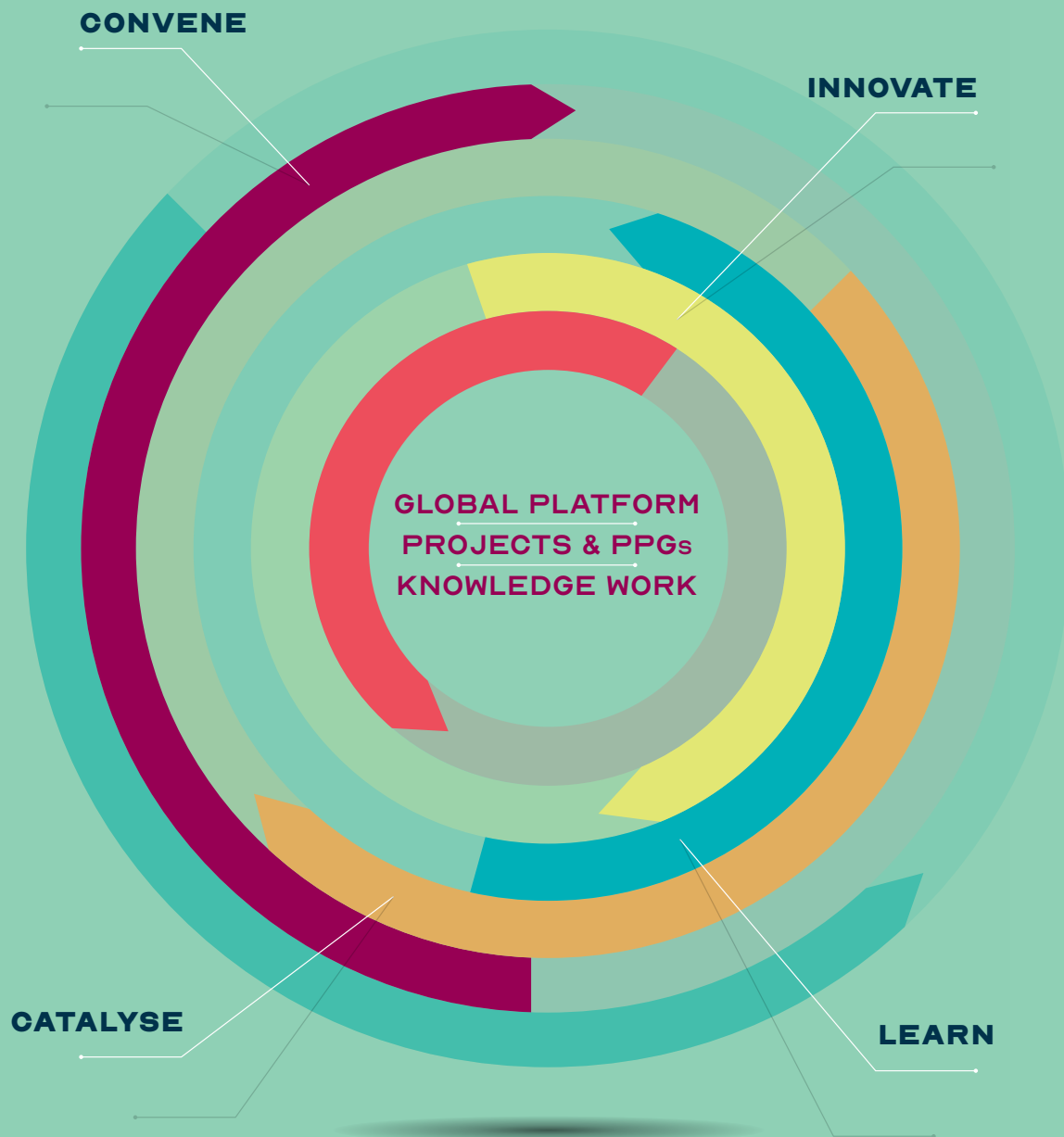


STDF Strategy 2025-2030: Facilitating safe trade to meet the global goals

The 2025-2030 Strategy supports the partnership to adapt to a changing global context... By harnessing the power of partnerships – including via strengthened regional links, a developing country expert network and private sector roundtable – the STDF global partnership will be better equipped to meet future challenges and seize opportunities to facilitate safe agrifood trade.

New STDF knowledge work on innovation and scaling will be taken forward under the Strategy period. This work will take STDF's innovative, collaborative projects and knowledge work to the next level, including to leverage additional financing for SPS systems.

MECHANISMS OF CHANGE: HOW STDF DRIVES CHANGE



Across all its three workstreams, the STDF focuses on: convening stakeholders across the public and private sector, regional and international organizations and beyond; SPS innovations that drive improvements and learning in a way that can also catalyse transformative change at scale.

CONVENING IN 2024

Through the Global Platform, and partnership network, the STDF continues to drive real change on the ground. In 2024, the STDF convened and connected diverse stakeholders at global, regional and national level through the Working Group and Practitioner Groups, outreach and projects.



WORKING GROUP

The STDF Working Group met on 20-21 June and on 6-7 November 2024, chaired by Sarah Brunel from the IPPC, bringing together over 40 members from the global partnership in-person and online. Over the sessions, the Working Group allocated a budget of US\$5.1 million to seven new projects and six PPGs enabling more global stakeholders to benefit from support to facilitate safe trade. This included a regional project to pilot eVeterinary certification in Latin America, drawing on the successful STDF ePhyto model of electronic SPS certification. In addition, a project was approved to promote expanded use of the ePing transparency platform, which facilitates the tracking of SPS measures, in five countries – Kenya, Namibia, South Africa, Tanzania and Uganda.

The 2024 Working Group sessions promoted dialogue among members around STDF work on PPPs, eCertification and environment mainstreaming. Other discussions focused in on IPPC's PCE Tool, the IFC/WHO food safety assessment tool, the WOAHPVS Pathway, domestic spillovers from trade-oriented SPS projects in a pilot COLEAD study, and CropLife International's sustainable pesticide management framework.

IN 2024: US\$5.1 MILLION APPROVED FOR 7 NEW PROJECTS AND 6 PPGs

NEW PROJECTS

Improving SPS compliance of small-scale cross border traders in Malawi, Tanzania and Zambia

Strengthening surveillance and risk management of Avian influenza for safe trade in the SICA region

Expanding use of ePing SPS&TBT Platform to enhance transparency for market access

More efficient audit and verification practices to facilitate food trade in Cambodia, Indonesia and the Philippines

Pacific Beekeeping Enabling Environment (BEE) project

Improving implementation of SPS best practices for export-oriented vegetables in Bangladesh

Strengthening implementation of Regulatory Impact Assessment (RIA) to facilitate safe trade of meat and meat products in the Philippines

NEW PROJECT PREPARATION GRANTS

Preparing a project to enhance phytosanitary capacity and facilitate market access in Uzbekistan

Preparing a project to strengthen the national food safety control system in Uzbekistan

Enhancing compliance with sanitary standards to develop the meat value chain in Chad

Assessing the COPE to scale phytosanitary capacity and increase market access in Africa

Promoting market access in the cashew nut value chain in Cambodia and Viet Nam

Mitigating aflatoxin contamination in peanuts in India





STDF Working Group in 2024

Chair:

Sarah Brunel

Implementation and Facilitation Unit Lead,
IPPC Secretariat, FAO

Vice-Chair:

Marie-Luise Rau

Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture,
BMEL, Germany

STDF Developing country experts in 2024

Rommel Betancourt

Nime Kapo

Martin Kimanya

Mary Grace Mandigma

MaryLucy Oronje

Jaime Romero

STDF Secretariat in 2024

Head:

Melvin Spreij

(to August 2024)

Head a.i.:

Marlynne Hopper

(from September 2024)

Aichetou Ba

Simon Hess

(November – December 2024)

Pablo Jenkins

Paola Michelutti

Chenge Nyagweta

(until April 2024)

Simon Padilla

Catalina Pulido

Nydiane Razafindrahaingo

Short-term:

Morgane Martin

Interns:

Joel Eshun

Sandra Bucha

(until February 2024)



PRACTITIONER GROUPS

**IN 2024,
HIGHLIGHTS FROM
STDF'S COMMUNITY
OF PRACTICE
FOR EXPERIENCE
AND LESSONS
EXCHANGE INCLUDED
COLLABORATIVE
APPROACHES THAT PLAY
A KEY ROLE IN DRIVING
SAFE TRADE
SOLUTIONS
WORLDWIDE.**

Public-Private Partnerships (PPPs)

STDF's PPP webinar series shared the latest in good practices and knowledge to influence change and were open to all stakeholders, attracting a high participation from across the regions in 2024.

An online dialogue was hosted by the STDF PPP Practitioner Group in collaboration with Grow Asia on 18 January to learn about partnerships driving food systems transformation in the Asia-Pacific region. Grow Asia highlighted examples of market-driven solutions based on agri-food innovation, responsible investing, women's economic empowerment and climate change adaptation. In turn, ASEAN shared insights on engaging the private sector on eCert and digital solutions within the single window platform.

We cannot do it alone, trust and friendship – those are key words to retain from the discussion. It was great to hear from experiences at Grow Asia and ASEAN with PPPs that are so important to stimulate innovation and facilitate safe trade. This is a key component of ensuring adequate protection of human, animal and plant health while making sure that trade can flow.

Camille Fléchet, WTO

The PPP Practitioner Group also held an online dialogue on 14 June to learn about how CropLife Africa Middle East is partnering with the EAC to facilitate safe agri-food trade in Africa. The session profiled public-private sector collaboration on agricultural innovations including work on harmonized guidelines for pesticides, risk assessment training for conventional and biological crop protection and eLearning.



Find out more [PPPs](#)

Prioritizing SPS Investments for Market Access (P-IMA)

The STDF P-IMA Practitioner Group was joined by the AGRA-hosted Food Trade Coalition for Africa (FTCA) and partners – AfCFTA Secretariat, CABI, CSIR-STEPRI, TMA and USDA – for a virtual event on 9 July. The discussion focused on experiences and lessons around using evidence-based approaches to prioritize SPS investments and leverage resources for safe trade in Africa. The dialogue explored how to take forward key recommendations from the joint STDF-FTCA briefing ‘Driving safe food trade in the midst of a food crisis in Africa.’

“It was a fascinating discussion and really good to see the key points that have come out around P-IMA as a prioritization tool for market access, which is key for NTBs and SPS issues... What’s critical, as has come out today, is how we collaborate. Our partnership between the organizations here and various others – with tools like P-IMA to move the needle forward.

Jonathan Said, Vice-President, Centre of Technical Excellence, AGRA



Find out more [P-IMA](#)

Electronic Certification (eCert)

The STDF Practitioner Group - the Electronic Certification Advisory Group (ECAC) - held virtual meetings on 3 July and 13 November to discuss progress on SPS eCert. At the July meeting, presentations shared by FAO looked into the cost-benefit analysis of adopting ePhyto alongside the impact of the ePhyto Solution on global agri-food trade. Knowledge exchange in the sessions covered data on the ePhyto Solution rolled out in more countries, news on the STDF eVet project and updates on members’ eCert initiatives. The Group also shared inputs ahead of a new multi-media STDF eCert product under development, with filming to take place in Morocco in 2025. STDF’s Strategy Workshop in June raised the option to broaden the focus of ECAC to both digitalization and eCert, which was agreed upon by STDF Working Group members in November.



Find out more [eCert](#)

COMMUNICATIONS

STDF 2024 Global Outreach Highlights



WEBSITE
55,300+
website visitors
(15% more than 2023)



STAKEHOLDERS
6,300+
stakeholders reached at 60+
events worldwide



YOUTUBE
1.17K
YouTube subscribers / 19,800+
views (to date) 68% more than
2023



NEWS
15
news items out to 3,820+
subscribers / 5 STDF stories

In 2024, the STDF shared knowledge at over 60 events worldwide on good practice topics, including PPPs, eCert, use of evidence-based approaches and mainstreaming environment and gender for more inclusive and sustainable trade. These events reached over 6,300 representatives from governments, industry, international and regional organizations and the private sector.

STDF GLOBAL AND REGIONAL EVENTS

Joint partner event to mark Francophonie day highlights STDF SPS work in Africa

An event held at the WTO to mark International Francophonie Day on 20 March highlighted how meeting SPS measures can foster economic growth, create jobs and promote international trade opportunities. The event was organized by STDF in partnership with the International Organization of la Francophonie (OIF), Cameroon, Canada, France, and COLEAD. Over 95 participants heard about best practices and lessons from STDF projects in Togo and Cameroon.

“The impacts of the STDF-funded Penja pepper project in Cameroon are real. It fostered job creation, increased revenues of actors along the value chain thanks to increased compliance with international market requirements and improved production practices. As a result of the Protected Geographical Indication registered in the EU, Penja pepper is now highly valued by European consumers.

H.E. Salomon Eheth, Ambassador of Cameroon to the WTO

Aid for Trade co-hosted session: innovating with digital connectivity

The 9th Global Review of Aid for Trade took place at the WTO from 26-28 June 2024. On 27 June, the STDF and partners (GATF, IGTC and ISF) co-hosted a session to explore the intersection of digital connectivity and food security. The event reached 100 SPS and trade experts and shared how digital solutions address food security and contribute to sustainable agricultural practices.

“Our discussions today not only highlight the challenges but also explore the immense opportunities that digital technologies offer. Collaboration is key to leveraging digital tools. Governments, private sector, NGOs and academic

institutions must work together. We must remain committed to integrating these technologies in a sustainable way ensuring they benefit all stakeholders in the food system.


Rose Souza Richards, Seed Health Manager, ISF

Joint TFAF/STDF event on digital trade facilitation in Latin America

The 4th Regional meeting of ALADI Members' National Trade Facilitation Committees on 26-27 November 2024 was co-organized with the Trade Facilitation Agreement Facility (TFAF), the STDF and IICA. Over 40 experts from 10 countries took a fresh look at digitalization for trade facilitation. A joint TFAF-STDF briefing capturing the event's exchanges on interagency collaboration, the interoperability of digital solutions and eCert tools and approaches was developed for publication in 2025.

The event was critical in promoting experience exchange and good practices among ALADI member states. To ensure success, we recognize the importance of collaboration among governments, institutions and the private sector plus efficient management of resources.

Rafael Laurentino, Head, Physical and Digital Integration, ALADI

 [Find out more](#)

Joint STDF/Codex Trust Fund event: promoting food safety and access to safe trade

The STDF and Codex Trust Fund (CTF) co-hosted an event on 29 November on the margins of the Codex Alimentarius Commission. The session, which was moderated by Developing Country Expert, Rommel Betancourt, highlighted the support available to developing countries. It examined synergies between the CTF and STDF, and opportunities for more cooperation to address existing and new food safety challenges.

STDF ONLINE PLATFORMS & MULTI-MEDIA

STDF website: updated platform for SPS community

The upgraded STDF website went live in August 2024 following a preview at the Working Group in June. New features include user-friendly, accessible sections on project applications and the wider portfolio. The homepage, which highlights STDF founding partners, was also re-organized to profile fresh content on the latest STDF events, news, stories and good practice topics. Many of these updates were rolled out in response to recommendations in the previous STDF evaluation.

STDF outreach: joining CABI's BioProtection Portal

In 2024, the STDF was invited to become an associate member of CABI's BioProtection Portal, an innovative tool to support the use of biocontrol and biopesticide solutions. The portal offers the largest free resource for biological plant protection, including educational content. This partnership builds on synergies with STDF regional biopesticide projects in Southern Africa, Asia and Latin America led by ICGEB, APAARI and IICA that also joined the portal. This ongoing collaboration is helping to disseminate CABI's BioProtection Portal through STDF's global platform and outreach activities, while increasing access to relevant STDF good practices.

 [Find out more](#)

STDF social media: contributing to the safe trade conversation

The STDF shared regular updates via the WTO on LinkedIn and X in 2024 highlighting donor support, upcoming events, project workshops and publications amplified by partners including

APAARI, CropLife, EIF, FAO, GATF, ICGEB, ISF, ITC, UNIDO and the Netherlands Agricultural Network.

STDF in multi-media: projects highlighted in MUF videos

In 2024, Minor Use Foundation (MUF) videos showcased the approach and results delivered under three STDF regional pilot projects, which contributed to the creation of the MUF. The STDF continues to work closely with MUF to support smallholder farmers in developing countries to export to regional and global markets. On 8 February, the STDF opened the fourth Global MUF Summit in Madrid alongside speakers from FAO, Kenya, USDA, and the private sector.

Video Impact Highlights

- Revenue increased for mango farmers in ASEAN countries as farmers access advanced crop protection technologies that are accepted under trade regulations around the world.
- Data generated with the support was used to register the product in 70 countries – opening markets and opportunities for smallholder avocado farmers in Colombia.
- Mango growers were supported to increase yields, improve fruit quality and raise returns on farmer investments, with a lasting impact on Kenya's agricultural support infrastructure.

 [Watch the videos](#)

SHOWCASING WHAT WORKS: 2024 ONLINE PROJECT STORIES

2024 stories from selected STDF projects to profile their results and impact post-completion.

Enhancing market access for fruits and vegetables from Uganda

The Ministry of Agriculture pledges its support, together with farmers and extension officers, that we will do everything “

possible to make sure that Uganda is able to continue exporting quality produce.

Brenda Kisingiri, Senior Agriculture Inspector, Uganda

The STDF project helped to reduce interceptions affecting horticulture exports - those affecting capsicum exports dropped by over 90%, from 44 in 2018 to three in 2022. This helped boost the private sector, with the number of exporters increasing to 250 in 2022, compared to 67 in 2019. The project's positive results catalysed an additional €8 million in EU investment into the sector.

 [Read the full STDF Project Story](#)

Pest-proofing Togo's produce: a gateway to global markets

“*Our company exports pineapples. To grow the business, I was responsible for finding small-scale growers and producers who could meet international standards and export requirements. Thanks to the training, I led the development of the HACCP manual and other procedures from start to finish.*

Desiadenyo Blavo-Tsri, Quality Manager, AGROKOM Company, Togo

The STDF project embarked on a comprehensive approach to empower local stakeholders to strengthen the phytosanitary system — paving a path towards pest-free trade. Buoyed by a strong adherence to SPS requirements, between 2017-2022, agricultural exports grew by 30%. Over the same period, interceptions by the EU decreased by 60%, transforming livelihoods in the country.

 [Read the full STDF Project Story](#)

Spices and Street Plays: Power of storytelling to enhance food safety in India's spice value chain

“*People enjoy the storytelling and human element of interacting with actors. When the farmers encounter an issue in the field,*

they can easily recall and implement the lessons learned during a performance to fix it.

Ashish Jaiswal, Export Promotions Officer, India

The STDF project used traditional street plays to tackle food safety concerns in the spice value chain and raise awareness about good agricultural and hygiene practices. The plays have been conducted in eight villages across four Indian States, reaching 1,500 individuals (540 of them women). Farmers are now becoming more confident in improving safety management systems.

 [Read the full STDF Project Story and see p.61](#)

Partnering to reduce aflatoxin levels and promote safe food trade in Burkina Faso

“*Previously, we faced major issues with aflatoxins in the areas where we sourced our products. However, thanks to the project's efforts, farmers have been educated and trained, resulting in significantly lower levels of aflatoxin contamination. Consequently, the rejection rate of our finished products has decreased. Farmers must persevere and continue implementing good practices.*”

Mariam Konate, Agroserv, Burkina Faso

The STDF project supported government and farmers to reduce aflatoxin contamination and boost the quality of maize. The value of maize exports increased by 31% between 2018 and 2021. This was partly due to new agricultural practices adopted by farmers thanks to the project. These ways of working helped producers increase average annual incomes from about US\$600 to US\$2,600.

 [Read the full STDF Project Story](#)

INNOVATING IN 2024

Through diving into the latest knowledge topics and piloting new approaches in the field, the STDF is able to generate fresh safe trade solutions. In 2024, STDF advanced the innovation agenda around digitalization and finalized regional and national projects on flagship areas.





KNOWLEDGE WORK ON DIGITAL SOLUTIONS

 New [STDF briefing on SPS eCert](#) and digitalization developed


eCert will generate momentum for other areas of international trade to digitalize. ePhyto, developed by IPPC with STDF's support, has proven to be a fantastic model to follow. It is simple, robust technology that can be applied in different parts of the world and can be replicated and upscaled to will.

Philippe Isler, GATF

A NEW STDF eCERT BRIEFING “DIGITALIZATION FOR SAFE TRADE FACILITATION: DRIVING TRANSFORMATION WITH SPS ECERTIFICATION” WAS DEVELOPED IN 2024. FEATURING STDF’S INNOVATIVE APPROACHES TO eCERT THROUGH EPHYTO AND eVET PROJECTS, THE NOTE REFLECTS ON EFFORTS TO SCALE THE INITIATIVES, MEASURE THE BENEFITS OF GOING PAPERLESS, WHILST ALSO OFFERING KEY LESSONS AND SUCCESS FACTORS THAT CAN INFORM FUTURE WORK.



SADC: innovative mobile laboratory for food safety testing

STDF's PPG study investigated the feasibility, potential impact and economic viability of a mobile ISO 17025 accredited food safety testing lab in SADC, with a focus on South Africa, Namibia, Eswatini and Lesotho. Stakeholder dialogues showed the project has competitive advantages and is commercially feasible, as the lab would provide a faster turnaround on diagnostic tests needed for exports. A 3D model was designed and printed to visualize the mobile lab. Stakeholders are now seeking funds to construct the vehicle and get it on the road.

 **Find out more: [PPG/765](#)**

Uganda: management of aflatoxins in maize using Systems Approach

The STDF PPG developed a project proposal for a coordinated aflatoxin mitigation strategy to address contamination across Uganda's maize value chain. Thanks to the support, a feasibility analysis was carried out, with stakeholders agreeing to pilot test a Systems Approach to aflatoxin management. The resulting proposal includes promoting scalable technological solutions to strengthen Uganda's trade position across the EAC, while improving domestic food safety and public health outcomes. The project is due to be submitted to the STDF in 2025.

 **Find out more: [PPG/847](#)**

Cabo Verde: addressing food safety control with FAO/WHO tool

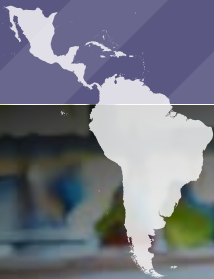
The STDF PPG applied the FAO/WHO Food Control System Assessment Tool in Cabo Verde to identify priorities to strengthen the national food control system, which is operating with outdated food safety regulations and limited risk analysis. Based on the assessment findings, public and private sector stakeholders in the national Codex Committee were engaged, alongside WHO experts, to develop a project proposal to modernize Cabo Verde's food safety system. This will provide a roadmap for improved consumer health and market access.

 **Find out more: [PPG/869](#)**

PROJECT RESULTS

CENTRAL AMERICA AND WEST AFRICA: innovative vTPA programmes piloted

Two collaborative STDF regional projects in Central America and West Africa were completed in 2024 that enabled national authorities to pilot the use of voluntary third-party assurance (vTPA) programmes to support more risk-based food safety controls, based on Codex Guidelines. The projects looked at how to support agri-food products to meet international food safety standards, in particular for the mango value chain in Senegal and Mali, and other targeted sectors in Honduras and Belize. Through workshops and webinars, national authorities, inspectors, and regulators were trained in risk-based inspections and vTPA assessments, improving their ability to allocate resources more efficiently and to evaluate food safety data from the private sector. The vTPA partnership platform convened by UNIDO supported exchanges between the regional projects, and regulators and industry partners in other regions, leveraged expertise and additional resources that raised awareness among stakeholders about the vTPA approach and how to put it into practice. These experiences helped to inform work under an ongoing STDF vTPA project in East Africa and are relevant for national food control authorities worldwide.



CENTRAL AMERICA FAST FACTS



TIME FRAME
October 2020
October 2024



STDF CONTRIBUTION
US\$619,916
(total value: US\$942,612)



PARTICIPATING COUNTRIES
Belize, Honduras



LED BY
IICA

Highlights

Honduras mapped and evaluated existing vTPA programmes used by the private sector for identified sectors, with larger Honduran companies seeing benefits in reduced inspections.

Belize focused on developing a robust risk-based inspection programme, which it is continuing to take forward in the coming years.

Collaborations

Roadmaps and practical steps on integrating the vTPA approach into national food control systems were developed in collaboration with international regulators, benefitting from study visits to other countries.

Partner Voices

These projects are one of a kind because they've allowed us to validate the Codex vTPA guidelines in a particular setting, which is from a developing country viewpoint. The STDF is a very important partner in supporting these efforts.

Mirian Bueno Almendarez,
Technical Director of Food Safety,
National Service for Agri-Food
Health and Safety, Honduras and
former STDF developing country
expert



WEST AFRICA FAST FACTS



TIME FRAME
February 2020
September 2024



STDF CONTRIBUTION
US\$779,397
(total value: US\$858,065)



PARTICIPATING COUNTRIES
Mali, Senegal



LED BY
UNIDO

Highlights

Reference toolkit for assessing vTPA was developed, including a food safety system model, a vTPA programme evaluation tool, and a vTPA readiness test.

SENEGAL: government authorities took steps to formalize the use of vTPA systems in the country as part of legislative reform

MALI: report recommending integration of vTPA approach into Mali's food safety legislation.

Collaborations

Strong collaboration and knowledge exchange across the project, including with local actors sharing experiences and organizing in-country workshops for the public and private sector.

Partner Voices

We wish to really thank STDF and all the partners who've supported us on these projects. We've gained lots of experiences as well as a lot of training. Now we want to reach the next level and get in touch with certification organizations, start data sharing and manage non-compliance.

Mahmoud Camara, Codex Contact Point and Senior Officer, National Food Safety Agency, Mali

SHARING vTPA PROJECT EXPERIENCES

During a Belize-led thematic session for the WTO SPS Committee on 12 November, partners from STDF's vTPA projects in West and East Africa and Central America shared their results, lessons and experiences with over 100 SPS delegates. The discussion was held in the context of the Sixth Review of the SPS Agreement, which highlighted building closer linkages between the SPS Committee and STDF. The session also looked at the UNIDO/STDF vTPA programme assessment tool and opportunities to assist more countries to use Codex vTPA Guidelines to enhance risk-based inspection and food safety outcomes.

KYRGYZ REPUBLIC: Modern food safety management in fruit and vegetable industry



Highlights

**1,560 farmers
trained on GAPs
and 86 employees
from 37 fruit and
vegetable processing
companies trained
on food safety rules.
Plus, 49 health
inspectors were
trained to carry out
HACCP inspections
and audits.**

Food processors and farmers from the Kyrgyz Republic faced major challenges in adopting modern risk-based systems to manage food safety, impacting on potential export opportunities. The STDF project, led by FAO, supported local fruit and vegetable processing enterprises through technical consultations and direct advice on implementing modern food safety management systems (e.g. HACCP, GHP, GMP). Targeted capacity building sessions reached the heads of agri-food cooperatives, processing enterprises and catering companies, all of which have a direct bearing on food safety across the fruit and vegetable production value chain. The introduction of the HACCP system in production is helping to increase consumer confidence and to drive the profitability of local businesses. In turn, by meeting food safety standards, the horticultural industry will have improved access to markets including across the Eurasian Economic Union. Going forward, there are plans to scale outcomes via an FAO pipeline project on agribusiness development, which will mobilize trained experts and incorporate food safety training materials.

Collaborations

Master training of trainers to put in place modern food safety management standards and systems such as GAP, GMP, GHP and HACCP, expanding the number of industry specialists.



Partner Voices

The tips received at the training will help to adjust the operating system of our enterprise and reduce production costs. Coaches explained everything in an accessible language. Everything you need to quickly and easily understand how to implement such a system as a HACCP beginner.

Yakubjan Alimjanov, Director, Trade and Logistics Center, Nookat district, Osh, Kyrgyz Republic

Food safety is a challenge facing all those involved in the food chain. Producers, end sellers and their intermediaries are the links in the chain. A well-designed and fine-tuned food safety system prevents loss of product quality at every stage and reduces the cost of spoilage or depreciation, not to mention the risk that spoiled products pose to public health.

Oleg Guchgeldiyev, FAO Representative, Kyrgyz Republic

**FAST
FACTS**



TIME FRAME
January 2020
June 2024



STDF CONTRIBUTION
US\$569,999
(total value: US\$746,210)



**PARTICIPATING
COUNTRIES**
Kyrgyz Republic



LED BY
FAO

GUINEA:

Updated plant health system with new approaches and tools



Highlights

Mango export approval was secured for the EU market and potato production increased by 112%, opening up prospects for agricultural exports to regional and international markets.

Faced with the growing challenge of climate change and spread of transboundary pests and diseases, STDF's project created the foundations to better manage regulated plant pests in Guinea, building on the findings from the 2017 Phytosanitary Capacity Evaluation. Led by COLEAD, the project promoted public-private dialogue and cooperation and made a significant contribution to upgrade Guinea's phytosanitary system to meet evolving regulatory requirements in export markets. Results included an updated plant health law and phytosanitary regulatory framework with innovative digital tools to improve pest surveillance across the potato and mango value chains. This included a potato blight warning system based on meteorological data and a computer model. The project also integrated environmental considerations into potato production. Over 400 people were trained including inspectors, exporters, and agricultural stakeholders on risk analysis, fruit fly control, effective blight control techniques and disease recognition, seed quality control and sustainable production practices. Officials were also supported to use EU TRACES and RASFF to monitor notifications and interceptions.

Collaborations

Deepening collaboration between the NPPO and private sector through stakeholder meetings, joint training sessions, and engagement on quality assurance and export certification.



Partner Voices “

Agents at the port and airport have been able to put into practice the knowledge they have received and are doing a better job of monitoring; companies have been trained, as have the trackers and collectors.

Mamadou Condé, Guinean Export Promotion Agency (AGUIPEX)

We at the Ministry are satisfied with the results of the STDF project, and we would like to thank the coordinator and the consultants who worked so hard, not forgetting our partner COLEAD.

Pierre Kamano, Director of the Strategy and Development Office, Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock, Guinea

FAST FACTS



TIME FRAME
October 2019
April 2024



STDF CONTRIBUTION
US\$559,491
(total value: US\$847,959)



PARTICIPATING COUNTRIES
Guinea



LED BY
COLEAD

CATALYSING IN 2024

By identifying and scaling SPS innovations through its workstreams, the STDF mobilizes support for more people to benefit. In 2024, STDF catalysed the uptake of good practices across agri-food value chains in its projects and leveraged stakeholder engagement for greater investments.





Burkina Faso: roadmap to boost sesame and cashew exports

The STDF PPG developed a project proposal to improve SPS compliance in the cashew and sesame sectors in Burkina Faso. Under the support, value chain analyses were carried out that identified critical control points where SPS risks occur, helping to prioritize project interventions. The PPG brought together government agencies, research bodies and the private sector to refine the project scope. The resulting proposal aligns closely with national priorities and provides a concrete roadmap to follow to boost export competitiveness and will be considered by the STDF Working Group in June 2025.

 Find out more: [PPG/859](#)

The Gambia: scaling up the P-IMA Tool informs investments

The STDF PPG supported The Gambia to apply the P-IMA framework to prioritize SPS investments for market access, a collaborative process which involved over 50 public and private sector actors. In total, six investment options were prioritized at a cost of US\$3.5 million with an expected return of US\$52.4 million if funded across the cashew, groundnuts, chili pepper, mangoes and hides and skins sectors. The authorities are taking forward efforts to mobilize resources, while COLEAD plan to use the P-IMA report to inform future projects.

 Find out more: [PPG/921](#)

Nigeria: snapshot on plant health system to plug the gaps

The STDF PPG supported national plant health experts in Nigeria under the guidance of the IPPC to apply the PCE tool to generate a snapshot of the country's phytosanitary capacity and provide a framework to address identified gaps. A project proposal is being finalized to support Nigeria to bring about a robust plant health system to reduce pest risks, promote agricultural commodities, at the same time as preserving biodiversity. The proposal will build on the PCE findings and reflect recommendations emerging from use of COLEAD's Rapid Assessment Tool (R-SAT). In turn, the proposal aims to catalyse more support for phytosanitary strengthening in the country.



Find out more: [PPG/817](#)



Pacific Islands: advancing apiculture for economic development

The STDF PPG developed a project proposal to strengthen production and export capacity of the apiculture industry in the Pacific Islands. Thanks to the support, a strong foundation was established for a regional initiative to promote sustainable and trade-ready apiculture, contributing to food security, rural livelihoods, and economic diversification. The resulting Pacific Beekeeping Enabling Environment project was approved by the STDF Working Group in 2024 with a total budget of US\$1.3 million, co-funded by the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs.

We are thrilled by this support. It marks a substantial step forward for our region's beekeeping industry and will bolster both environmental sustainability and economic opportunities, benefiting beekeepers, consumers, and the Pacific economy at large. “

**Ambassador Mere Falemaka, Pacific Islands Forum
Permanent Representative to the UN and WTO**



Find out more: [PPG/935](#)



SADC: South-South public-private approach on pesticides drives regional change

Highlights

All 16 SADC member states endorsed the technical content of the harmonized guidelines for biopesticides (initially developed by 6 project countries), to be approved by the SADC Council of Ministers.

SADC member countries faced trade barriers due to non-compliance with SPS standards and pesticide Maximum Residue Level (MRL) requirements. The STDF regional project facilitated biopesticide registration and adoption to mitigate pesticide residues, improve compliance with MRLs, and enhance agricultural exports, particularly mango and avocado. Led by ICGEB, the project developed guidelines for registering biopesticides and biological control agents in the region alongside roadmaps in five countries. 65 government officials and scientists were trained as part of hands-on mitigation studies focused on the use of biopesticides at the end of the growing season, following the application of conventional plant protection products. A toolkit was developed to assist farmers in evaluating biopesticides in integrated pest management, alongside wider knowledge products. A reduction of up to 50% in pesticide residues in mango was reported at the end of the project. Industry continues to roll out the guidelines and support residue mitigation studies. Information on 166 biopesticide products registered in Mozambique, South Africa, Tanzania and Zimbabwe is now available for growers to access on CABI's Bioprotection Portal.

Collaborations

Dialogues reached over 500 people. On 4-8 March in Cape Town, STDF and partners – CABI, CropLife Africa Middle East, ICGEB and USDA – co-organized a workshop on regulatory harmonization and biopesticide innovation in Africa with 84 public-private sector participants from 23 countries.

See also the APAARI/STDF policy brief (2024) on lessons from the STDF regional biopesticide project in Asia. [View the brief](#)



Partner Voices

The Southern Africa Biopesticides Project is playing a significant role in developing policy frameworks at regional and country levels.

Kenneth Chipere, Pesticide Registration Officer, Zimbabwe

For years, we struggled with MRL compliance. This project gives us hope by demonstrating effective

pesticide residue mitigation using biopesticides.

Emmanuel Nko, Avocado Farmer, Tanzania

The project secured additional financing from partners like USDA, FAO and CropLife Africa Middle East. Countries committed resources to support integration of the guidelines

into their national regulatory processes, while the Inter-African Phytosanitary Council (AU-IPSAC) has met with regulators to begin developing continental guidelines based on the framework.

Dennis Ndolo, Project Manager, Group Leader, ICGEB Biopesticides Group

FAST FACTS


TIME FRAME
March 2021
August 2024


STDF CONTRIBUTION
US\$798,480
(total value: US\$1.19 million)


PARTICIPATING COUNTRIES
Botswana, Kenya, Mozambique, South Africa, Tanzania, Zambia, Zimbabwe


LED BY
International Centre for Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology (ICGEB)

SOUTHEAST ASIA: Food safety for peppercorn catalyses market access



Highlights

Cambodian farmers reported no rejections of produce, and, in 2024, the country achieved a milestone by exporting peppercorn to China for the first time.

GIZ plan to use the project's guides and training modules under an EU funded programme in Cambodia – the EU-German Cambodia Partnership for Sustainable Agriculture and Food Systems (EU-German CAPSAFE) – worth EUR 10 million, supporting further upscaling.

Peppercorn farmers in Cambodia, Lao PDR and Viet Nam faced significant challenges in meeting international food safety standards due to microbial contaminants and pesticide residues. The STDF project introduced innovative solutions to enhance food safety and market access for peppercorn. Led by CABI with local partners, the project significantly improved peppercorn quality and safety. A Code of Practice on GAP and GHP was developed for producers, collectors and input providers, aligned with Codex standards and international buyer programmes as well as harmonized with national standards and tailored to local conditions. A [Practitioner Guide](#) for Grassroots-PPPs was also produced to promote a collaborative market systems framework to value-chain development. The Guide provides a toolkit to navigate and facilitate the complex relationships between market actors. In Viet Nam, 100% of samples from participating farmers met international export standards and, in Lao PDR, farmers enhanced production practices. The adoption of biocontrol methods reduced pesticide use, contributing to environmental sustainability. The impact of the project extended to others in the value chain, with significant income improvements due to increased yields and higher prices.

Collaborations

Grassroots public-private partnerships (G-PPP) model facilitated collaboration among farmers, buyers and public sector advisors, enhancing compliance with the [Code of Practice](#) for increased market access.



Partner Voices

Through this project, farmers gained new knowledge to improve the quality and safety of their peppercorn, so they could sell and earn more. Companies were able to source higher-quality peppercorn and export to new markets like China. This led to bigger profits for businesses, higher government revenues

and foreign exchange earnings. Overall, the whole country benefits.

Ker Monthivuth, Director, General Directorate of Agriculture, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, Cambodia

Vietnamese farmers On Thanh Hoa and Nguyen Van Tien highlighted the cost savings achieved through adoption of good pesticide management practices,

reducing pesticide use from 10 bottles per season to just two bottles, resulting in a 30% cost reduction. Find out more

Through the project I gained valuable knowledge and am able to supply lemongrass and other products to buyers like Simexco and Vietpepper in Viet Nam.

Soumaly Phommahuk, women-owned Etu Green Company, Lao PDR

FAST FACTS


TIME FRAME
October 2020
March 2024


STDF CONTRIBUTION
US\$711,096
(total value: US\$917,846)


PARTICIPATING COUNTRIES
Cambodia, Lao PDR
and Viet Nam


LED BY
Centre for Agricultural
Biosciences International
(CABI)

INDIA:

Spice value chain results mobilize follow-up support



Highlights

Over 80% of tested spices met Codex MRL standards, enabling exports to premium markets. Farmer organizations signed 25 agreements with exporters and trading companies, increasing prices and market stability for their members.

Indian spice farmers, particularly in Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, and Rajasthan, faced significant challenges related to SPS compliance, pesticide residues, and limited access to high-value international markets. STDF's project strengthened India's value chain by improving compliance, fostering market connections, and promoting sustainable agricultural practices. Led by the FAO, with the Indian Ministry of Commerce's Spices Board, the project helped 1,700 farmers and 200 value chain actors to adopt better agricultural and hygiene practices. This reduced pesticide residues, improved compliance with Codex standards and created opportunities for poor women farmers and other vulnerable groups to sell their cumin, fennel, coriander and black pepper to new markets. Recognition of the project results has led to new collaborations, digital training and private sector-led interventions to scale the approach so that more farmers can benefit.

Collaborations

FAO and GIZ are exploring scaling up project interventions in the targeted states and to other spices and commodities, with a focus on fostering private sector driven interventions and CUTS study (catalysed by project) on 'Gender Dimensions of Spice Value Chains in India'.



Partner Voices

The STDF pilot project revolutionized the spices value chain by promoting sustainable practices like GAP and GHP. These efforts improved product quality and expanded market access.

**Dharmendra Das, Deputy Director,
Spices Board, India**

Before the STDF intervention, we had little knowledge of Good Agricultural Practices related to cleaning, packaging, grading and marketing of crops. The intervention not only improved farming techniques but also created better market linkages for sustainable growth.

**Harinder Singh, male farmer,
Rajasthan**

The use of pepper threshers and tarpaulin sheets improved the quality of my black pepper, enabling me to earn 15-20% higher prices.

Dimple Devi, female farmer, Andhra Pradesh

**FAST
FACTS**



TIME FRAME
October 2019
September 2024



STDF CONTRIBUTION
US\$508,830
(total value: US\$892,030)



**PARTICIPATING
COUNTRIES**
India



LED BY
FAO

LEARNING IN 2024

Embedding learning on what works well and why through monitoring and evaluation and project case stories allows STDF to keep improving its results. In 2024, STDF promoted good practices on PPPs, P-IMA and GRPs with action on priority cross-cutting areas of gender and the environment.





KNOWLEDGE ACROSS GOOD PRACTICE TOPICS

PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS (PPPS)

A new STDF PPP guide "PPPs for improved SPS systems and safe trade facilitation: learning about the why, the what and the how," was developed in 2024, which offers practical insights and lessons to leverage public and private sector skills and capabilities to reach shared objectives. The Guide categorizes PPPs into three types: policy and regulation, hard and soft infrastructure, and operations and delivery. Key success factors highlighted in the publication include having an enabling environment, clear rationale and aims, appropriate and stable funding and inclusivity. The 'magic dust' identified is trust, the presence of the right people and effective communication, noting that technology can also play an enabling role. The knowledge product was developed in partnership with STDF's PPP Practitioner Group – including STDF partners, donors and developing country experts – and draws from their experiences across Africa, Asia-Pacific and Latin America on how to create, develop and successfully run PPPs. In 2024, CABI built on STDF's guide to produce a PPP framework that encourage public-private collaboration across CABI's project portfolio.

“*Inspired by STDF's work, CABI developed its own internal guide to integrate PPPs in the lifecycle of relevant CABI projects. Drawing on the STDF guide, we adopted and adapted key elements to inform our organization-wide approach.*

Suzanne Neave, former Global value chain development lead, CABI

The STDF practical guide is complemented by six new STDF PPP case stories highlighting successful public-private collaborations. Both products aim to support learning, encourage scaling and help stakeholders build effective PPPs, strengthen SPS systems and facilitate safe trade.

SENEGAL: Strengthening mango market access through fruit fly management

CAMBODIA, LAO PDR, VIET NAM: Community Partnerships for Safer Peppercorn

SOUTH AFRICA, MOZAMBIQUE: Setting up Pest-Free and Low-Pest Areas to Boost Fruit Exports

PARAGUAY: A collaborative approach to eradicate FMD and boost meat exports

KENYA: National Horticulture Taskforce

ANIMAL HEALTH AUSTRALIA: A collaborative partnership for the livestock sector



[View the PPP case stories](#)

Key questions and steps to run a PPP



PRIORITIZING SPS INVESTMENTS FOR MARKET ACCESS (P-IMA)

In 2024, P-IMA was rolled out further with a P-IMA assessment completed in The Gambia, application of P-IMA in Belize and Jamaica and software procured for use in P-IMA applications. The STDF initiated follow-up on recommendations of the external P-IMA evaluation via discussions with partners and wider stakeholders on synergies with capacity evaluation tools and other initiatives.



Use of P-IMA by CABI in study to inform resource allocations in Kenya

In 2024, a [USDA/FAS report](#) assessing Kenya's dairy and beef sectors and opportunities for investments was published, drawing on a CABI-led study using the P-IMA framework. In the study, seven different investment options to improve productivity and resilience of the beef and dairy value chains were prioritized and ranked based on decision criteria such as cost, contribution to value chain resilience and productivity. This work will inform future decision-making and help mobilize funding to support the livestock value chains, contributing to economic growth and better livelihoods.

Sharing learning on P-IMA at African Union (AU) SPS Coordination Forum

STDF was part of the AU SPS Coordination Forum on 14-15 May and the African Growth and Development Policy SPS Network training on 16-17 May in Gaborone, Botswana. At both events, the STDF shared learning on how P-IMA has been used to prioritize SPS-related investments to date, and how priorities identified can inform the formulation and roll-out of SPS policies on the continent. Over 70 representatives from the AUC, RECs, academia, public sector, civil society and development organizations working on SPS matters in Africa were involved in the exchange.

Presenting P-IMA to IGAD countries to prioritize areas in the livestock sector

STDF also shared lessons on P-IMA at the IGAD Regional Consultative Meeting in Uganda from 25-28 June, linked to the World Bank's Food Systems Resilience Project. Over 35 stakeholders involved in IGAD's programme took part in the discussions, together with those working on animal health and One Health, research institutes and other development organizations.



GOOD REGULATORY PRACTICES (GRPs)

Throughout 2024, the STDF GRP Guide was widely disseminated, including during an AUC/AfCFTA training workshop for over 65 participants in September in Zambia and during the 3rd African Food Safety Workshop in October in Morocco for over 110 stakeholders. A study published in 2024 under the US Food Safety for Food Security project looks at how RECs in Africa are applying GRPs based on the Guide and offers guidance to strengthen SPS regulatory systems. The US is currently piloting the GRP Guide in Nigeria and Zambia with USDA support, and a complementary GRP Toolkit was developed by USDA, leveraging and taking forward STDF work.



DOMESTIC SPILLOVER EFFECTS OF TRADE-RELATED SPS PROJECTS

At the June Working Group, members learned about a COLEAD pilot study on spillovers, which links to STDF's work under PPG/535 led by Michigan State University, and the resulting briefing "Trade spillover effects: the impact on domestic food safety." The study used the six categories of expected positive spillovers outlined in the STDF briefing, which span: knowledge, GRP, other institutional aspects, infrastructure, incentive-related and standards compliance.

WTO SPS AGREEMENT AND LINKAGES WITH STDF

The STDF supported a regional WTO SPS workshop for 40 officials from 20 countries across French-speaking Africa in Rabat from 2-6 December, organized with the Moroccan National Office for Food Safety. Over the event, participants learned about STDF project and knowledge work, alongside the SPS Agreement, with a special emphasis on transparency and the ePing SPS&TBT Platform.



MONITORING, EVALUATION AND LEARNING (MEL)

HIGHLIGHTS:



Projects and PPGs

3

project impact evaluations completed as part of STDF's Programme Evaluation: [PG/432](#), [PG/495](#), [PG/567](#)

3

external end-of-project assessments finalized for 2024 completed projects: [PG/498](#), [PG/517](#), [PG/694](#) with

3

more underway: [PG/665](#); [PG/682](#); [PG/619](#)

32

progress reports submitted by implementing partners on LogAlto



Cross-cutting Areas

Learning Assessment on environment, biodiversity and climate

3

Gender analyses covering over

10

countries



Operations

STDF Programme Evaluation assessing the results under

**2020
2024**

Strategy

Discussions at Strategy workshop on improvements to operations including

MEL

The external STDF Programme Evaluation, published in May 2024, was a priority focus for STDF's work on MEL in the first half of the year. The Secretariat supported the evaluation company to reach Working Group members and other relevant stakeholders and secure necessary data and information. The Evaluation concluded that the "MEL Framework sets out very clearly the importance and value of rolling out a results-based management system for the partnership." In addition, it recognized efforts to improve MEL over the Strategy period since 2020, while identifying opportunities to strengthen this further. These included reviewing the objectives of the results-based management system, the MEL requirements of different partners, how to streamline the system, as well as revisiting the logframe and embedding monitoring and lesson-learning into management and decision-making.

STDF's monitoring, evaluation and learning throughout 2024 was guided by the existing MEL Framework and focused on demonstrating results and fostering learning in line with the 2020-2024 Strategy. Over the year, projects continued to use the LogAlto tool, with 32 progress reports submitted on the platform by implementing partners, alongside inception and end-of-project reports. In turn, end-of-project/PPG surveys conducted in 2024 showed an overall satisfaction with STDF's monitoring and reporting requirements from most of the 76 respondents.

During the year, the project impact evaluations and external end-of-project assessments carried out highlighted several key lessons, which involved engaging diverse stakeholders, including the private sector, to ensure lasting success. In addition, early and robust sustainability planning, coupled

with strong cooperation, was shown to enhance the project's ability to maintain results and adapt to challenges. Flexibility in project implementation, alignment with country-specific priorities and political commitment were seen as crucial for timely decision-making and to achieve objectives. Further, incorporating relevant innovative approaches and addressing gender and environmental issues was considered vital in maximizing impact and promoting inclusive sustainable development.

The STDF's monitoring and reporting requirements were highly appropriate, providing a robust framework that facilitated effective adjustments during unforeseen delays, such as COVID-19 and election-related disruptions... The professionalism and support of the Secretariat throughout were exemplary, offering prompt guidance and constructive solutions that allowed the project to overcome challenges and achieve its objectives effectively.

End-of-Project survey respondent



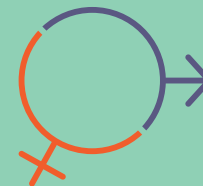
External Learning Assessment:

- “ Since the STDF’s early work on climate change risks there is a clear trend of growing awareness of the interconnections between SPS issues, safe trade, climate change and environment.
- “ The STDF has had an impact in mainstreaming environment through its workstreams while remaining focused on SPS capacity and safe trade. Consideration of environment has been mainstreamed into the funding mechanism, with two-thirds of applications explicitly considering environment in project development.

In 2024, the STDF published an external assessment on the integrating the environment, biodiversity and climate change into STDF’s work. The findings and recommendations of the report were presented to the Working Group in June and were widely welcomed. One follow-up area includes the development of a practical plan of action to support environment mainstreaming in 2025 in consultation with members. This will include a checklist with guiding questions to support mainstreaming throughout STDF’s project cycle based on needs, opportunities and challenges.



GENDER



“ Women remain underrepresented in SPS systems across Africa. The STDF’s work on gender mainstreaming highlights the importance of addressing gender-specific needs and barriers, an approach that is essential to delivering more inclusive and impactful results on the continent.

John Oppong-Otoo, Food Safety Officer AU-IBAR

“ Women are often the first affected by chemical product use in agriculture, yet many lack the literacy skills needed to understand regulations, read labels, or properly apply treatments. By integrating gender considerations into phytosanitary legislation, we ensure that policies address these gaps, making agricultural practices safer and more inclusive for women.

Gender Focal Point, Directorate of Plant Protection (DPV), Senegal

Over 2024, there were ongoing efforts to address gender challenges, needs and opportunities in STDF knowledge work and projects, based on STDF’s Gender Action Plan. STDF projects continued to promote a gender-mainstreaming approach ensuring that more women can actively participate in boosting export potential and in strengthening local agricultural markets.

In 2024, gender analyses covering over 10 countries were carried out under STDF projects supporting the promotion of inclusive capacity development and safe trade facilitation. For instance, gender analyses were completed in projects on managing scale insects in fresh fruits in East Africa and strengthening national phytosanitary capacity in Senegal. Findings highlighted reviewing activities and indicators to support better gender mainstreaming, from training agricultural extension officers on gender integration to developing gender-sensitive resource materials for farmers. They underscored strengthening the operational capacity of NPPOs to conduct gender-sensitive planning, budgeting and reporting. These findings are being used by partners to ensure greater attention to gender needs and opportunities. In addition, roadmaps for using vTPA data in Uganda’s fisheries and Rwanda’s horticulture value chains include strategic actions to mainstream gender, following a gender analysis from 2023. In 2025, an STDF practical training guide on the gender dimensions of SPS capacity building targeted at project beneficiaries will be developed to address areas in the gender analyses.



PROJECT IMPACT EVALUATIONS: HIGHLIGHTS

Three project impact evaluations were carried out by Project Economics Consulting in 2024 as part of the STDF Programme Evaluation. They aimed to support the overall evaluation of STDF's partnership and performance as well as to serve as stand-alone project impact evaluations. Field work in Central America, Southeast Asia and Southern Africa included meetings with project partners, beneficiaries and stakeholders, complemented by two web-based surveys. Full reports of the project evaluations are available on the STDF website.



CASE STUDY I.

Asia-Pacific: Promoting IT solutions for pest surveillance and reporting



“ The project has helped all NPPOs to improve their surveillance capacity, systems, data collection and reporting... Overall, the project contributed to all countries gaining and/or maintaining market access. In some cases, this took place after the project ended.



Results snapshot

The project improved NPPOs' surveillance capacity by providing mobile devices and training on pest identification, data collection, and reporting allowing for saved field time and improved data reliability. Most NPPOs have sustained capacity building results by passing on expertise to colleagues.

Lessons snapshot

It is important to share innovations (including use of free software apps) and actively support countries to replicate and roll out similar ones, alongside the need to rationalize information platforms. There is usefulness in establishing a stakeholder network for sharing experience, knowledge, expertise, lessons and trouble-shooting.

Recommendations snapshot

Organize virtual training on alternative software for all NPPOs; support the set-up of a community of best practice across NPPOs based on progress made under the project.

FAST FACTS



TIME FRAME
2016-2022



STDF CONTRIBUTION
US\$997,595
(total value US\$1.71 million)



PARTICIPATING COUNTRIES
Cambodia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Myanmar, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Thailand, Viet Nam



LED BY
Australian Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

CASE STUDY 2.

Central America & the Caribbean: Accreditation of diagnostic tests for animal diseases



“ The evidence suggests that increased diagnostic capacity of the regional laboratory network and credibility of the tests has had a positive impact on target product exports, both within the region and externally. Countries saw growth in key markets such as shrimp and cattle.



Results snapshot

Countries saw growth in key markets such as shrimp and cattle, with international markets opening or re-opening since the project launch. Additionally, regional ability to prevent and control endemic and transboundary animal diseases increased. The creation of a regional network of laboratories is contributing to continued knowledge sharing.

Lessons snapshot

The regional and twinning approach proved highly effective for disease specialization. Collaborations fostered knowledge exchange and international recognition in the testing of priority diseases across the region. It is important to also widen the scope to cover maintaining and expanding accreditations of diagnostic tests and strengthening laboratory biosecurity.

Recommendations snapshot

Continue advocating a regional approach and strengthening regional collaboration between laboratories as well as expanding partnerships with key actors committed to addressing animal diseases; consider expanding scope for potential future initiatives.

FAST FACTS


TIME FRAME
2016-2022


STDF CONTRIBUTION
US\$840,898
(total value US\$1.24 million)


PARTICIPATING COUNTRIES
Belize, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, Panama


LED BY
OIRSA

CASE STUDY 3.

Southern Africa: pest-free areas supported fruit production and exports



“ All targeted regions were monitored effectively with data shared to formalize PFAs and ALPPs... The evidence suggests a positive correlation in terms of retained market access through defining low-risk areas for fruit trade, notably to main markets such as the EU.



Results snapshot

The project was innovative in terms of its approach establishing PFAs and ALPPs over such a wide region. Through financial and technical public-private partnership, the project successfully established PFAs and ALPPs in South Africa and Mozambique, including surveillance programmes and action plans for melon and oriental fruit flies. Positive environmental outcomes were recorded related to reduced reliance on pesticides.

Lessons snapshot

Collaboration between Mozambique and South Africa allowed for a joint approach to the surveillance and response to invasive fruit fly species. One key lesson for the establishment of PFAs and ALPPs was the importance of streamlining trapping data.

Recommendations snapshot

Adopt a more integrated approach for future projects in terms of geographical reach, with broader-based actors across the fruit industry; support awareness raising of online monitoring tools and the sharing of best practice, including with other regions.

FAST FACTS


TIME FRAME
2020-2023


STDF CONTRIBUTION
US\$721,584
(total value US\$2.89 million)


PARTICIPATING COUNTRIES
Mozambique,
South Africa


LED BY
Agricultural Research
Council (South Africa)

RISK MANAGEMENT

In a rapidly changing world, political instability, natural disasters, climate change, and other factors pose a challenge to STDF's efforts to facilitate safe trade worldwide. During the course of 2024, the STDF Secretariat, in collaboration with Working Group members, project implementers, and other stakeholders, continued to monitor and manage risks across all of the three workstreams and within specific projects to the extent possible.

Risk	Likelihood	Risk mitigation and management
Long-term economic effects of COVID-19 pandemic, and/or new major global crisis	MEDIUM	The pandemic affected implementation of some ongoing projects, which at times led to delays, and efforts were made to support these projects. Measures were taken to achieve progress and conclude activities, including granting no-cost extensions to ensure successful completion.
Limited interest among developing country stakeholders in STDF's work	LOW	There is growing interest in STDF's work, evidenced by an increasing number of funding applications, including multiple submissions from the same countries. The Secretariat continued to offer targeted support to help stakeholders with their applications. Moving forward, better coordination within countries and communication will be crucial to managing the rising volume.
Inadequate resources (including financial, human and time) to deliver the STDF's Strategy	MEDIUM TO HIGH	While financial contributions increased in 2024, staffing changes (e.g. departure of STDF's Communications Officer in March and the Secretariat Head in August) placed additional pressure on the Secretariat and a high volume of new funding applications intensified competition for funding. These issues were addressed by rescheduling the planning and delivery of selected activities (e.g. e-Cert film, PPP Guide), contracting external comms expertise for key tasks (e.g. annual report, 20 th anniversary publication, briefing and project stories) and short-term assistance to provide support on responses to applicants and review of incoming grant requests, and re-assigning key activities across the team.
Lack of engagement of members in STDF's work	LOW	STDF partners remained highly engaged in the STDF Working Group and Practitioner Groups, contributing their time, expertise, and guidance. Members' involvement was especially critical throughout the year in shaping the development of the STDF's 2025-2030 Strategy.
External factors of specific relevance to STDF projects	MEDIUM	<p>Several ongoing risks – including administrative delays, currency fluctuations and frequent staff turnover – impacted implementation and caused delays across various projects. Additionally, some more challenging political issues (e.g. pre-election instability in Senegal), natural disasters and extreme weather events (e.g. hurricanes in Central America), and climatic changes (e.g. severe heat waves in Mali resulted in reduced and delayed fish catch), disrupted work plans and slowed delivery.</p> <p>The Secretariat continued to engage closely with project partners to proactively identify and manage risks as far as possible. Mitigation strategies included regular engagement and reminders with relevant stakeholders to expedite information sharing, promote open communications and transparency, and advocate for regulatory reforms. Project implementors adapted by revising work plans, leveraging additional local expertise and including additional meetings and workshops to address unforeseen issues and improve stakeholder coordination. These efforts ensured that despite the obstacles, project activities remained on track and aligned with overall objectives.</p>

RESULTS TABLE

Programme (STDF) level indicators	NARRATIVE
SAFE TRADE FACILITATED	
<p>US\$ value of exports for target HS code products and target markets (i.e. regional, intra-regional, global, etc.)</p> <p>1 PG contributing to increase in exports of fruits and vegetables in 1 country</p>	<p>STDF/PG/498:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase in value of exports from Guinea by 92%, from US\$52.35 million to US\$100.73 million between 2019 and 2022.
<p>x Markets accessed</p> <p>1 PG contributing to market access of 1 country</p>	<p>STDF/PG/498:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mango exports averaged 1,350 tonnes per year, facilitated in part by EU acceptance of Guinea's mango dossier. Potato production increased by 112%, from 37,720 to 80,000 tonnes between 2019 and 2022, with improved market access.
<p>x Firms with an increase in exports, disaggregated by gender and size of firm</p> <p>2 PGs contribute to increase in farmers income in the spice and peppercorn value chains in 4 countries</p>	<p>STDF/PG/517:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Average income from spice crops increased by 58%, from approx. US\$937 (baseline) to approx. US\$1,481 (endline). Increase in spice income from baseline vs endline (black pepper: +246%; cumin: +16%; fennel: +24%; coriander: +21%). Company M/S Nedspice purchased almost 9 tonnes of black pepper from 17 farmers in Paderu.
	<p>STDF/PG/619:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Yield and income increase of peppercorn farmers: (i) Cambodia yields increased from 2.5 KMT to 2.89 KMT, prices rose from US\$1,590 to US\$3,920; (ii) Lao PDR prices increased from US\$1,870 to US\$4,343; (iii) Viet Nam yields increased from 3.3 KMT to 7.4 KMT, prices rose from US\$1,498 to US\$7,000.
<p># of SPS non-compliance alerts/notifications</p> <p>3 PGs contributing to decrease in # of SPS non-compliance alerts/notifications in 5 countries</p>	<p>STDF/PG/498:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improved phytosanitary management led to 43% reduction in EU notifications for fruit/veg imports (interceptions fell from 7 (2019) to 4 (2023); no interceptions for priority crops (mango or potato).
	<p>STDF/PG/619:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Over 50% of targeted farmer groups achieved 45% reduction in microbial contaminants. 100% of pepper samples from 10 participating farmers in Viet Nam met European export standards. 12% reduction in rejections due to SPS issues.
	<p>STDF/PG/759:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reduction in no. of interceptions from 13% to 5.75% of fresh and processed exported hot peppers.

Evidence of market access and exports/imports directly facilitated through STDF support, with particular attention to climate change, environment, gender and inclusion

26 MoUs and Eols between FBOs and exporters/traders in 1 country, 4 Farmer groups with increased financial returns in 3 countries and actors supported to access markets in 4 other countries

STDF/PG/517:

- Food Producers Organizations (FPOs) in intervention states signed 25 MoUs/Eols with exporters and traders.
- 1 MoU was signed between ITC Ltd and Jaitaran FPO.
- Flavourit Spices Trading Limited began procuring seed spices from project areas.
- Nestlé Food Safety Institute India in talks with Spices Board for direct procurement from FPOs.
- ITC Ltd. committed to purchasing IPM products from farmers at higher price.

STDF/PG/619:

- Cambodia exported peppercorn to China for first time.
- New market opportunities through PPPs and links between smallholder farmers and buyers.
- Increased financial returns for 4 farmer groups (59 farmers).

STDF/PG/682:

- One firm in Honduras exported shrimps to China.

STDF/PG/694:

- In Tanzania, Neem oil sales grew by over 26% from 400 litres (Oct. 2023) to 1,500 litres (Mar. 2024).
- In Zimbabwe, import permits issued: for 20 litres of Cryptogran and 500 litres of Neem (2022), 21 litres of Cryptogran (2023) and 100 litres of Cryptogran (2024).

STDF/PG/755:

- Philippines started to exchange ePhytos with Thailand.

PROGRAMME GOAL: INCREASED AND SUSTAINABLE SPS CAPACITY IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

of STDF initiatives and PPGs/PGs contributing to changes in SPS legislation, regulation, policies, strategies, structures and/or processes

14 PGs contributing to changes in SPS legislation, regulation, policies, strategies, structures and/or processes in 19 countries

STDF/PG/498:

- Update and validation of the plant health law in Guinea and three implementing regulations in line with international standards.
- Development of mango dossier outlining Guinea's Tephritidae control measures for EU export (approved by EU in 2020).
- Development of manuals, procedures and technical sheets for phytosanitary control on import.
- Development of manuals, procedures and technical sheets for phytosanitary control on export.

STDF/PG/517:

- Establishment of comprehensive National Contaminant and Residual Control Programme in India.
- 6 Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs) equipped with Quality Management System (QMS) for GAP.

STDF/PG/553:

- Development of SOPs/guidelines in Papua New Guinea to eliminate smoke taint on cocoa.
- Development of PFA audit checklist for cocoa.

STDF/PG/569:

- Legal inputs to the draft food safety law in the Kyrgyz Republic and HACCP integration into law.
- New record-keeping templates and two checklists for HACCP inspections and fruit/veg processing plants used by Health Ministry.
- Guidelines on inspection of fruit and vegetable processing industries developed.

STDF/PG/577:

- 2 national strategies in Colombia and Peru to manage cadmium levels in cocoa products (with recommendations endorsed for implementation in national cocoa sector plans).

	<p>STDF/PG/611:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Draft national strategy to manage pesticide and PAH risks in the smoked fish sector.
	<p>STDF/PG/665:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increased readiness for vTPA adoption. In Senegal, vTPA being formalized in legislation.
	<p>STDF/PG/672:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regional and international benchmark analysis of national shellfish inspection and sanitary control system in Senegal.
	<p>STDF/PG/681:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Development of maps showing cadmium concentration in cacao and soil in Ecuador and Colombia (in collaboration with EU- Clima-LoCa project) to inform policy making and expansion of production areas.
	<p>STDF/PG/682:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strengthened risk-based food safety management and use of vTPA approach in Honduras, including integration into food safety legal framework. Development of first risk-based inspection system in Belize and approval of National Quality Council.
	<p>STDF/PG/751:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Proposal for food safety legislation in Haiti.
	<p>STDF/PG/753:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Draft regulatory proposal on biopesticide registration (consulted with private sector).
	<p>STDF/PG/759:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Draft instructions for hot pepper seed certification legislation developed and submitted to MOAFM. Development of draft manual with SOPs, records, procedures for determination, establishment, verification and maintenance of ALPP.
<p># of STDF initiatives and PPGs/PGs contributing to changes in SPS legislation, regulation, policies, strategies, structures and/or processes, including attention to gender</p> <p>1 PG contributing to changes in SPS legislation, regulation, policies, strategies, structures and/or processes, including attention to gender in 1 country</p>	<p>STDF/PG/807:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Updated invasive scale insect surveillance and monitoring protocols developed for Burundi, Kenya and Uganda.
	<p>STDF/PG/946:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gender analysis informed revised phytosanitary legislation

of STDF initiatives and PPGs/PGs contributing to changes in SPS legislation, regulation, policies, strategies, structures and/or processes, including attention to environment, biodiversity and/or climate change

2 PGs contributing to changes in SPS legislation, regulation, policies, strategies, structures and/or processes, including attention to EBC in 17 countries

Evidence of improved implementation and/or enforcement of food safety, animal and/or plant health measures for trade

11 PGs contributed to the improved implementation and/or enforcement of food safety, animal and/or plant health measures for trade in 11 countries

STDF/PG/498:

- Scientific protocol developed to test effectiveness of digital warning system using weather stations.

STDF/PG/694:

- Harmonized guidelines developed for registration of biopesticides and biological control agents.
- 16 SADC member states endorsed technical content of guidelines.
- 5 countries developed roadmaps to domesticate guidelines into national regulatory processes.

STDF/PG/498:

- Detection of bacterial wilt using potato late blight warning system in Guinea.
- Improved import quality controls for potato seed resulting in higher quality planting material and better pest management.
- NPPO validation of 55 priority crops and 24 pest lists using risk assessment.
- Operational support to sustain ECOWAS fruit fly surveillance system (including in 10 geolocated orchards in key export areas).
- 12 new guides/protocols to improve inspection, certification and sampling procedures.
- Guinea using EU TRACES and RASFF platforms for improved notifications and decision-making.

STDF/PG/517:

- Enhanced awareness of SPS practices among project beneficiaries (56 farmers at baseline, 353 farmers at endline).
- 4 Food Producer Organizations (FPOs) certified to IndGAP.
- 8 FPOs registered on National Sustainable Spice Networking Programme.
- Use of mechanized threshing and clean storage practices to boost market readiness.
- 10 moisture meters distributed to 6 FPOs in three states (Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan).
- Trichoderma used by 1,000 seed spice farmers in ten villages in same three states.

STDF/PG/569:

- Trained farmers show improved knowledge on food safety management and GAPs (correct answers increase from 21.8% to 78.8% from pre- to post-training tests).
- 87% of processor staff trainees scored above 80 points out of 100 on post-training surveys.

STDF/PG/611:

- Fish smoked using project's improved ovens showed lower PAHs and pesticide residue levels (compared to analysis of 300 samples).

STDF/PG/619:

- 15 farmers in Cambodia achieved CamGAP certification.
- CoP adopted by 30 farmers in Cambodia, 19 in Lao PDR and 10 in Viet Nam.
- Cambodia agriculture ministry integrated CoP into extension system.
- Broader adoption of sustainable practices by non-participating farmers

STDF/PG/681:

- Two laboratory ring tests (cacao and soil) conducted with 30+ labs in Ecuador and Colombia to verify consistency and reliability of results.
- More accurate prediction method for cadmium concentration in cacao beans developed and used.

	<p>STDF/PG/682:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implementation of risk-based approach in Honduras led to lower inspection frequencies and resource efficiencies for public and private sector. • 42 government inspectors and regulatory staff improved skills on risk-based food safety approaches. <p>STDF/PG/694:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biopesticide usage increased by 7.5% among sampled avocado farmers in Tanzania and 12% among sampled mango farmers in Kenya. <p>STDF/PG/755:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prototype web portal with phytosanitary requirements for seed developed for 7 countries. <p>STDF/PG/798:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 55 people from public sector validated e-CERISE learning modules on international trade or emergency risk management. <p>STDF/PG/946:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 35 people (including 13 women) improved skills on phytosanitary risk analysis
<p>Evidence of improved implementation and/or enforcement of food safety, animal and/or plant health measures for trade with attention to gender and youth</p> <p>1 PG contributing to the improved implementation and/or enforcement of food safety, animal and/or plant health measures for trade, with attention to gender</p>	<p>STDF/PG/498:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All 7 women managers at Guinea's NPPO participated in at least one capacity-building activity under project.
<p>Evidence of improved implementation and/or enforcement of food safety, animal and/or plant health measures for trade, with attention to environment, biodiversity and climate change</p> <p>4 PGs contributing to the improved implementation and/or enforcement of food safety, animal and/or plant health measures for trade, with attention to environment, biodiversity and climate change</p>	<p>STDF/PG/498:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Warning system for potato mildew developed to predict infection risks based on weather data. • Five weather stations installed in potato-growing regions of Fouta Djallon (Timbi Madina and Dalaba) and Soumbalako. <p>STDF/PG/517:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promotion of pre-sowing activities, efficient irrigation and sustainable practices (IPM and organic fertilizer use). • High adoption of environmentally friendly practices (64% using IPM at project end compared to 19% at baseline). <p>STDF/PG/619:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vietnamese farmers reduced pesticide use from 10 bottles per season to 2 (30% cost reduction) due to switch to biocontrol methods. • Expansion of effective weed management techniques and increased understanding of proper pesticide use from 40-70/80%.

STDF/PG/694:

- 12 large-scale growers (7 in Tanzania, 5 in Kenya) adopted biopesticide-based residue mitigation system (BBRM) to meet pesticide MRLs.
- Mitigation studies showed that replacing final pesticide application with biopesticides provided equivalent pest control and significantly lowered residues, supporting use of BBRM by growers.
- Tanzania reported all farmers in the project transitioned to biopesticide use at end of the growing season (switching from pheromone lure traps).

OUTCOME 1: MORE SYNERGIES AND COLLABORATION DRIVING CATALYTIC SPS IMPROVEMENTS**Value (US\$) of new investments leveraged**

US\$42.1 M 2004-2024
(+4% from 2004-2023)

US\$42,075,709: total (estimated) budgeted in-kind and/or financial resources from external sources to STDF projects and PPGs (2004-2024). Additional funds leveraged for PGs approved in 2024: US\$2,019,331. Additional funds leveraged through on-going/completed projects (see below): US\$60,000. Additional funds leveraged for PPGs approved in 2024: US\$0. Total funds leveraged in 2024: US\$2,079,331

STDF/PG/498:

- DNPV-DS Guinea requested EUR 17 million for construction/renovation of labs under EUR 90M World Bank project (based on project analysis).

STDF/PG/694:

- Additional in-kind funds leveraged from USDA to support development of draft harmonised guidelines and residue mitigation studies.

STDF/PG/759:

- US\$60,000 leveraged from FAO for drafting of Jamaica's 10-year National Agricultural Development Plan (NADP).

#, type of collaborative networks, relationships, initiatives at global, regional and/or national level that support the delivery of change in SPS systems, including attention to partnerships addressing climate change, environment, gender and inclusion

13 PGs
35 networks/groups established including 1 linked to environment

STDF/PG/498:

- Improved communication and coordination between plant health stakeholders.

STDF/PG/517:

- 8 Farmers Producers Organizations set up or strengthened. Rise in membership of targeted farmers in FPOs (from 120 to 284) for stronger collective bargaining.

STDF/PG/553:

- 8 Farmer agreements with groups in PNG's East New Britain province to formalize partnership between cocoa extension programme and farmer groups on data collection, trade facilitation and market access.

STDF/PG/619:

- 7 Participatory Guarantee Schemes (PGSs)/Grassroots Public-Private Partnerships (G-PPPs) established among peppercorn farmers for increased uptake of the CoP.

STDF/PG/665:

- vTPA partnership platform promoted dialogue among public and private sector stakeholders.

STDF/PG/672:

- Coordination across ministries of environment, fisheries and others involved in conservation of protected and community marine areas on mangrove deforestation for shellfish smoking activities.

STDF/PG/681:

- Synergies between EU Clima-Loca project and STDF cacao project stakeholders in Colombia and Ecuador.

**Evidence of adaptation,
replication, scaling of STDF
approaches**

7 PGs
7 approaches
11 countries

STDF/PG/682:

- Belize and Honduras engaged with private sector in Argentina, Mexico, and Chile (including GFSI).
- National Quality Council in Belize improved collaboration among MSMEs, larger industries and consumers.

STDF/PG/694:

- New partnerships between SAPReF regulators and registrants in six project countries, guided by Kenya.
- Consultations among regulatory bodies, agriculture and environment ministries supported environment mainstreaming.
- Improved collaboration with private sector (CropLife AME, South African Bioproduct Organization).

STDF/PG/751:

- Public and private stakeholders in Haiti and Dominican Republic coordinating on phytosanitary and food safety issues (tomato, eggplant and chili value chains).

STDF/PG/755:

- Strengthened public-public and public-private partnerships through APSA Regional Phytosanitary Expert Consultation (including joint visits to private sector seed health laboratories and fields in Thailand and the Philippines).

STDF/PG/856:

- Synergies between APEC/US funded project “FSCF E-Certification for Animal Products” and eVet project.

STDF/PG/946:

- Minister of Agriculture, Senegal officially recognized pest risk analysis technical working group (comprising staff from DPV, research, universities, development actors, etc.).

STDF/PG/498:

- Internal audit system for phytosanitary inspection procedures in mangoes replicated for potato, cashew and pineapple value chains.

STDF/PG/517:

- 2 labs equipped to support implementation of National Contaminant and Residual Control Programme (piloted for four spices, with replication plans).

STDF/PG/611:

- 15 improved fish smoking ovens distributed to a research lab and to 14 women/women associations.
- Feasibility study showed economic viability of up-scaling improved kilns (financial profitability coefficient of 1.4, compared to 0.64 for traditional kilns).

STDF/PG/619:

- GIZ to scale CoP under EU-CAPSAFE project for GAP training in Cambodia.

STDF/PG/682:

- 2 companies producing/exporting fruits and vegetables adopted vTPAs and certified in GlobalG.A.P. (increase from 7% to 29/36% in Honduras).
- Central America Customs Union adopted work on vTPA approaches.

STDF/PG/694:

- Countries committed resources to integrate biopesticide guidelines into national regulatory processes. AU-IPSAC launched development of continental guidelines.
- Information on 166 registered biopesticides in 5 countries (Tanzania, Mozambique, Zimbabwe, South Africa and Zambia) included in CABI Bioprotection portal.
- Tanzania exploring use of biopesticides in other value chains. FAO building on project results to promote biopesticides in Zimbabwe.

<p>Evidence of the coordination and/or alignment of SPS capacity development interventions by WG members</p> <p>7 examples</p>	<p>STDF/PG/753:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Virtual event with 109 participants raised profile of Minor Use Foundation <p>• Global Minor Use Foundation (MUF) summit (Spain, Feb. 2024)</p> <p>• ePhyto Africa Workshop (Italy, Feb. 2024)</p> <p>• IFC 11th Global Food Safety Forum (Uzbekistan, May 2024)</p> <p>• ProgRESSVet-Multiregional Africa (Kenya, June 2024)</p> <p>• FAO/WHO Coordinating Committee for Latin America and the Caribbean (Ecuador, July 2024)</p> <p>• APEC Food Safety Cooperation Forum (FSCF) and USDA e-Vet workshop (Peru, Aug. 2024)</p> <p>• ALADI/TFAF/STDF/IICA National Trade Facilitation Committees on Digitalization and Interoperability (Uruguay, Nov. 2024)</p>
<p>OUTCOME 2: GREATER ACCESS TO, AND USE OF, GOOD PRACTICES AND KNOWLEDGE PRODUCTS AT GLOBAL, REGIONAL AND NATIONAL LEVEL</p>	
	<p>STDF/PG/498:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 17 trainers (including 1 woman) and 260 producers (including 148 women) trained on Good Practice Guide for potato mildew surveillance. 3 NPPO experts trained on methodology and operations for establishing and updating national regulated pest lists. 20 people trained (including 1 woman) on quality control of imported potato seeds. 75 technicians (including 8 women) trained in integrated mildew management and warning system using weather stations. 14 NPPO agents (including 1 woman) trained on mango inspections. 9 people (1 woman) trained on sampling principles and design of a sampling plan. 6 people (including 1 woman) trained on ISO 17020 and 2022 action plan. 14 NPPO agents (including 1 woman) trained on phytosanitary risk analysis and ISPMs. 15 trackers, harvesters and production managers trained on maintenance, sanitation and control of mango fruit flies. 15 production managers and packing station staff trained on mango monitoring. 10 mango packing staff trained on recognizing mango fly stings, phyto inspection and certification, maintenance, sanitation and sorting. 55 field operators, (including 7 women) were trained in effective techniques to combat mildew and other potato pests and diseases. 2 DNPVDS-DS agents trained to implement internal audit system for mango fruit fly management. 151 trackers and harvesters trained in recognizing fly stings on mango. Nearly 3,000 members of Fouta Djallon Farmers Federation improved skills. <p>STDF/PG/517:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 535 women trained on GAP and GHP <p>STDF/PG/569:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1,560 farmers (incl. 704 women) and 86 processors (incl. 43 women) from 37 fruit/veg processing companies trained on GAP, GHP and HACCP. 45 national food safety experts trained as master or assistant trainers. 49 inspectors (including 37 women) trained to certify GAP and HACCP systems in fruit/veg processing, aligned with EAEU Technical Regulations and Codex standards. National Rural Women's Day highlighted gender policy in agriculture and gender analysis of fruit/veg sector. <p>STDF/PG/577:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1,170 farmers (306 women), 172 extension providers (41 women), 97 technicians (37 women) and 173 cocoa value chain stakeholders (90 women) trained on cadmium mitigation. 5 Cadmium Talks Webinars reached 206 people (99 women) in 29 countries. <p>STDF/PG/611:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1,033 processors, members of associations and groups across Mali indirectly benefit from new improved smoked fish oven.

of people reached
(disaggregated by women/
men and geography/region)
with STDF good practices,
knowledge products

> 10,189 people reached
including >2,643 women
and 80 youth in over 60
countries

STDF/PG/619: <ul style="list-style-type: none">59 farmers (incl. 8 women) trained on Code of Practice (CoP) on Codex guidelines and GAP.
STDF/PG/665: <ul style="list-style-type: none">35 inspectors, including 6 women trained in Mali and Senegal on risk-based inspections.27 people reached through the vTPA partnership platform.28 participants, including 11 women, attended training on best post-harvest practices in the mango sector.81 food business operators, including 34 women, trained in vTPA and food safety management systems.
STDF/PG/672: <ul style="list-style-type: none">176 shellfish growers trained on GHPs.
STDF/PG/681: <ul style="list-style-type: none">98 people (incl. 60 women) from 38 different laboratories trained on quality control and conventional techniques for measuring cadmium in cacao and soil.
STDF/PG/682: <ul style="list-style-type: none">49 FBOs trained on improved food safety practices.
STDF/PG/694: <ul style="list-style-type: none">30 scientists (including 9 women) trained on GAP and GLP.216 (incl. 82 women) trained on IPM toolkit.53 farmers (incl. 19 women) in Tanzania and 25 farmers (incl. 11 women) in Kenya participated in mitigation studies.
STDF/PG/751: <ul style="list-style-type: none">91 people trained (including 20 women) in Dominican Republic on integrated farm management, pesticide management, GAP, and phytosanitary surveillance.50 producers reached in Haiti with tools and inputs including biopesticides and watering cans.334 people trained (including 125 women and 80 young people under 25 years old) on topics such as GlobalGAP, phytosanitary surveillance system, IPM, climate change, etc.
STDF/PG/753: <ul style="list-style-type: none">28 people including 17 women, trained on GLPs in field and lab.44 people trained on field and laboratory research.
STDF/PG/755: <ul style="list-style-type: none">33 people (including 18 women) trained on ISPM12 and the IPPC ePhyto solution.32 people (including 17 women) trained on Import/Export Phytosanitary Certification Process.
STDF/PG/759: <ul style="list-style-type: none">19 people (including 11 women) from public and private sector trained on seed certification and quality control.27 trainers (including 21 women) trained on food safety along the hot pepper value chain.63 farmers trained on financial and insurance to support transition to agri-entrepreneurs.

	<p>STDF/PG/798:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Training of public and private sector in the Philippines, Lao PDR and Cambodia on implementation and enforcement of SPS in trade: Philippines: 32 people trained (incl. 15 women); Lao PDR: 45 people trained (incl. 12 women); Cambodia: 57 people trained (incl. 7 women).• 38 village animal health workers trained on biosecurity measurement to prevent ASF in Cambodia.• 22 village animal health workers (incl. 4 women) trained on biosecurity and surveillance on farm, in wildlife and domestic wildlife in Laos.• Awareness raising campaign reached 849 people in 11 villages in Lao PDR to promote ASF prevention, vaccination and biosecurity measures.• 37 trainers (incl. 1 woman) from the General Directorate of Animal Health and Production, Office of Animal Health and Production in Battambang, AVSF, and the National University of Battambang trained on biosecurity to prevent ASF.
	<p>STDF/PG/809:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 10 trainers (technicians & inspectors) trained on potato cyst nematodes diagnostic protocol in 10 African countries.• 12 trainers (technicians & inspectors) trained on Soft Rot Pectobacteriaceae diagnostic protocol in all beneficiary countries.
	<p>STDF/PG/838:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 57 officials people (including 11 women) reached during regional simulation of response to fusarium wilt R4T in Andean Community states.
	<p>STDF/PG/842:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 36 government regulators (including 12 women) trained on risk-based inspections in Uganda.• 37 government regulators (incl. 13 women) trained on risk-based inspections in Rwanda.• 30 FBO quality assurance managers (incl. 12 women) trained on risk-based management.
	<p>STDF/PG/880:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Development of 9 factsheets and 1 manual on IPM, pollination and plant protection for soursop.
<p>% of people reached (disaggregated by women/ men and geography/region) with STDF good practices, knowledge products</p> <p>N/A</p>	<p>N/A</p>
<p># of downloads of different types of knowledge products from website, disaggregated by geography</p> <p>55,300 website visitors</p>	<p>55,300 website visitors from around the world.</p>

<p>Evidence of uptake and application of good practices and knowledge products produced by STDF to inform and support SPS capacity development led by global/regional/national bodies</p> <p>11 Evidences of uptake and application of 5 STDF knowledge products or approaches</p>	<p>Gender:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Three projects completed gender analysis (PG/807, PG/770, PG/946). Roadmaps for using vTPA data in Uganda's fisheries and Rwanda's horticulture value chains developed (PG/842) including strategic actions to address challenges faced by women. CUTS study commissioned by FAO on "Gender Dimensions of Spice Value Chains in India" following PG/517. <p>P-IMA:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> P-IMA (STDF/PPG/921) informed design of EUR 19 million programme in The Gambia (implemented by COLEAD). <p>GRP:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> USDA / Texas A&M developed digital SPS GRP Toolkit based on STDF's GRP Guide and piloted in Zambia and Nigeria. GRP Guide used to support development of Harmonised Guidelines for Registration of Biopesticide Products and Biological Control Agents in Southern Africa. <p>Briefing note on trade Spillovers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> COLEAD re-used parts of STDF trade spillovers methodology as part of comprehensive study in Kenya. <p>eCert:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Briefing on SPS eCert.
<p>OUTPUT: STDF GLOBAL PLATFORM - DIALOGUE AND EXCHANGE AMONG WG MEMBERS AND WITH OTHER RELEVANT ORGANIZATIONS</p>	
<p># and type of STDF/external meetings</p> <p>>61 events</p>	<p>Total number of STDF events in 2024: 61 events (including 2 Working Group meetings, 6 Practitioner Group meetings, 11 other events).</p>
<p># of participants (quantity) in online or physical STDF events</p> <p>> 6,300 participants</p>	<p>Over 6,300 representatives of governments, industry, international and regional organizations participated in online and in-person events.</p>
<p>OUTPUT: STDF KNOWLEDGE WORK, PUBLICATIONS, GOOD PRACTICE BRIEFINGS, FILMS, ETC. PRODUCED</p>	
	<p>STDF/PG/498:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Updated list of regulated/quarantine pests for Guinea published on IPPC's website. Development of a general potato surveillance plan. Development of a plant health surveillance plan for fruit flies and mildew. Development of a Good Practice Guide for potato production. Strengthening of national database for fruit fly population data (hosted on the ECOWAS/ARAA platform) and setting up of a system for tracking interception notifications. An image box was created and made available to the trainers of the Fouta Djallon Planters Federation (FPFD) for surveillance of mildew based on content of Good Practice Guide. 8 documents on collecting and analyzing agri export data, monitoring and analysis of interception notifications, establishing system to disseminate interception notification results to national stakeholders, traceability in mango inspection system.
	<p>STDF/PG/517:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Development of 4 package of practices on GAP and GHP for spices. Production of 16 information, education, communication materials. Development of 60 concise videos on GAP and GHP for four species, tailored to local languages (Gujarati, Hindi, and Telugu).
	<p>STDF/PG/569:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Master trainers provided with training materials translated in Kyrgyz and Russian. Reports on food safety practices in Kyrgyzstan fruit and vegetable industry, and processing sector. 29 materials adapted from 9 previous FSMS projects by FAO, EU, World Bank, GIZ, USAID, and UNDP.

and type of STDF knowledge products completed/published

238 Knowledge and outreach products completed/published

STDF/PG/577:

- 10 bulletins developed on best practices to mitigate cadmium levels.
- Contribution to updating 4 maps identifying cadmium hotspots in cocoa in beneficiary countries.

STDF/PG/611:

- Image box developed to support capacity building on the usage of improved ovens for smoked fish.
- Audiovisual presentation covering Mopti, San, Ségou, Niono, Koulikoro, Selingué, Sikasso, Commune du Mandé and Bamako.

STDF/PG/619:

- 53 knowledge products created and translated into local languages (including training modules, factsheets, handbooks, farmer diaries and M&E guides).
- G-PPP manual to promote collaborations between market actors.

STDF/PG/665:

- 2 vTPA roadmaps for Mali and Senegal.
- vTPA toolkit to evaluate food safety systems based on Codex guidelines.

STDF/PG/681:

- 2 reports on cacao and soil with recommendations to improve lab testing capacities.
- 1 scientific publication on reliability of new technique for measuring cadmium concentration in cacao and soil using E-max equipment.

STDF/PG/682:

- Development of checklist for Belize based on Honduran model to measure compliance and categorize risk.

STDF/PG/694:

- 2 mitigation studies on avocados and mangoes in Kenya and Tanzania.
- 7 knowledge products on IPM strategies and GAP for key pest/crop combinations and use of biopesticides.
- 2 factsheets on biology and management of anthracnose fungi and false codling moth.

STDF/PG/751:

- IPM programme in the Dominican Republic.
- Training materials for technicians in Haiti.

STDF/PG/753:

- Collaboration with academia to develop soft skill training curriculum including risk communication.

STDF/PG/759:

- Development of certification of hot pepper seeds and seedlings manual.
- Development of seed certification and quality control manual and end to end certification guide.
- Development of cost benefit analysis and fee structure for hot pepper seed certification.

STDF/PG/798:

- 1 video focused on village veterinary workers abilities in Lao PDR.
- 1 video focused on village animal health workers abilities in Cambodia.
- 1 video focused on attitudes and practices of ASF and biosecurity measures in Lao PDR and Cambodia.
- 1 training course on biosecurity (in English, Filipino and Laotian).

	STDF/PG/842: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2 vTPA roadmaps for Rwanda and Uganda.
	STDF/PG/880: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9 factsheets and 1 manual on IPM, pollination and plant protection for soursop.
# knowledge products with attention to gender equality N/A	N/A
# knowledge products with attention to environment, biodiversity and climate change (EBC) 3 Knowledge products with attention to EBC	STDF External Learning Assessment - Environment, Biodiversity, Climate Change. STDF/PG/498: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Good Practice Guide for potatoes addressed environmental protection. STDF/PG/569: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> GAP materials included climate smart agriculture practices.
OUTPUT: SPS ASSESSMENTS AND FEASIBILITY STUDIES CONDUCTED AND PROJECT PROPOSALS FORMULATED UNDER STDF PPGs	
# PPGs approved for STDF funding 6 PPGs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> STDF/PPG/944: Preparation of a project proposal to facilitate market access through enhancing phytosanitary capacity in Uzbekistan. STDF/PPG/962: Preparing a project proposal to strengthen the national food safety control system in Uzbekistan. STDF/PPG/968: Assessing the centre of phytosanitary excellence (COPE) to scale phytosanitary capacity and increase market access in Africa. STDF/PPG/989: Enhancing compliance with sanitary standards to develop the meat value chain in Chad. STDF/PPG/1010: Promoting Market Access in the Cashew Nut Value Chain in Cambodia and Viet Nam. STDF/PPG/1027: Mitigating Aflatoxin contamination in peanuts in India.
# PPG completed 7 PPGs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> STDF/PPG/765: An ISO 17025 accredited mobile laboratory for food safety testing in the SADC region. STDF/PPG/817: Evaluating phytosanitary capacity to improve the plant health system in Nigeria. STDF/PPG/847: Sustainable management of aflatoxins and in maize grain using Systems Approach in Uganda. STDF/PPG/859: Strengthening Burkina Faso's sesame and cashew export capacity. STDF/PPG/869: Enhancing food safety control capacities in Cape Verde. STDF/PPG/921: Scaling up the P-IMA tool in The Gambia. STDF/PPG/935: Advancing apiculture for economic development in the Pacific Islands.
% of PPGs meeting minimum STDF assessment threshold 86% 15 individual responses	Out of 7 completed PPGs in 2024, 7 responded to the STDF's end-of-PPG survey (15 individual responses in total). 6 out of 7 passed the minimum STDF assessment threshold of 70% based on quality of delivery, effectiveness of PPG intervention, relevance, involvement of relevant national and regional stakeholders.

OUTPUT: INNOVATIVE AND COLLABORATIVE SPS CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS IMPLEMENTED

<p># PGs approved for STDF funding</p> <p>7 PGs</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • STDF/PG/722: Strengthening Regulatory Impact Assessment (RIA) Implementation to Facilitate Safe Trade of Meat and Meat Products in the Philippines. • STDF/PG/782: More efficient audit and verification practices to facilitate food trade in Cambodia, Indonesia and the Philippines. • STDF/PG/789: Improving SPS compliance of small-scale cross border traders in Malawi, Tanzania and Zambia. • STDF/PG/831: Improving the Implementation of SPS Best Practices for Export-Oriented Vegetables in Bangladesh. • STDF/PG/935: Pacific Beekeeping Enabling Environment (BEE). • STDF/PG/984: Strengthening surveillance and risk management of Avian Influenza for safe trade in the SICA region. • STDF/PG/1000: Expanding use of the ePing SPS&TBT Platform to enhance transparency for market access.
<p># PGs completed</p> <p>8 PGs</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • STDF/PG/498: Strengthening Guinea's phytosanitary system. • STDF/PG/517: Strengthening the spice value chain in India to improve market access. • STDF/PG/569: Enhancing capacity for food safety management in the Kyrgyz fruit and vegetable industry. • STDF/PG/619: Safer spices: boosting food safety and market access for the peppercorn value chain. • STDF/PG/665: Piloting the use of voluntary Third-Party Assurance (TPA) Programme in Africa to improve food safety outcomes for public health and trade. • STDF/PG/681: Mitigating high levels of cadmium in cacao in Colombia and Ecuador. • STDF/PG/682: Piloting the use of Third-Party Assurance (TPA) Programme in Central America to improve food safety outcomes for public health and trade. • STDF/PG/694: Enhancing Trade Through Regulatory Harmonisation and Biopesticide-Based Residue Mitigation in the SADC Region.
<p>% of PGs meeting minimum STDF assessment threshold</p> <p>100%</p> <p>61 individual responses</p>	<p>Out of 8 completed PGs in 2024, 8 responded to STDF end-of-PG survey (61 individual responses in total).</p> <p>All projects passed minimum STDF assessment threshold of 70% based on quality of delivery, effectiveness of PG intervention, relevance, involvement of relevant national and regional stakeholders.</p>



FINANCIALS

As shown in Table 1 below, 11 donors made contributions to the STDF Trust Fund in 2024 for a total amount of US\$7,619,823. These donors included Australia, Canada, the European Union, Finland, France, Germany, Ireland, the Netherlands, Norway, Sweden and the United States.

Table 1: Financial Contributions to the STDF Trust Fund in 2024

Development Partner		Amount (in CHF)
Australia	DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND TRADE (DFAT)	666,532
Canada	AGRICULTURE AND AGRI-FOOD CANADA (AAFC)	164,869
European Commission	DG FOR INTERNATIONAL PARTNERSHIPS (DG INTPA)	561,600
Finland	MINISTRY FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF FINLAND	467,000
France	MINISTÈRE DE L'ECONOMIE, DES FINANCES ET DE LA SOUVERAINETÉ INDUSTRIELLE ET NUMÉRIQUE DU GOUVERNEMENT DE LA RÉPUBLIQUE FRANÇAISE, MINISTÈRE DE L'AGRICULTURE ET DE LA SOUVERAINETÉ ALIMENTAIRE	600,900
Germany	FEDERAL MINISTRY OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE (BMEL), FEDERAL MINISTRY FOR ECONOMIC COOPERATION AND DEVELOPMENT (BMZ)	2,018,712
Ireland	IRISH AID	184,800
Netherlands	MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS	650,000
Norway	NORWEGIAN AGENCY FOR DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION (NORAD)	322,451
Sweden	SWEDISH INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION AGENCY (SIDA)	804,891
United States	US DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE (USDA), US FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION (US FDA)	278,930
Total (CHF)		6,720,684
Total (US\$)		7,619,823

Total STDF expenditure in 2024 amounted to CHF5,945,119 (corresponding to US\$6,740,497), which was close to the total expected budgeted expenditure (US\$6,999,220) in the STDF 2024 work plan (see Table 2).

Table 2: Actual and Estimated Expenditure in 2024

Category	Actual (US\$)	Estimate (US\$)	Variation (%)
I. Global Platform	101,850	129,950	-27.6%
II. Projects and PPGs	5,072,045	5,248,850	-3.5%
III. Knowledge Work	440,440	519,800	-18.0%
IV. Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning	449,984	412,450	8.3%
V. Communications	307,436	350,300	-13.9%
VI. Other Operational Costs	368,742	337,870	8.4%
Total Expenditures	6,740,497	6,999,220	-3.8%

At the end of December 2024, the STDF showed a positive balance of CHF1,304,801 (corresponding to US\$1,479,366), as shown in Table 3 below. This amount is calculated by deducting: (i) STDF's total expenditure in 2024; (ii) STDF's contracted commitments of CHF9,577,700 for ongoing PPGs and projects; and (iii) STDF's uncontracted commitments of CHF5,029,414 (corresponding to 5 PPGs and 7 projects approved by the Working Group in 2024 but not yet contracted as of 31 December 2024).

Table 3: STDF's financial balance by 31 December 2024

Category	Amount (in CHF)
Opening Balance as of 1 January 2024	14,928,592
Contributions Current Year	6,720,684
Interest on Investments	207,758
Total Funds	21,857,034
Total Expenditures	5,945,119
Contracted Commitments	9,577,700
Balance in favour of donors	6,334,216
Uncontracted Commitments	5,029,414
Final Balance (CHF)	1,304,801
Final Balance (US\$)	1,479,366

GLOSSARY

AfCFTA	African Continental Free Trade Area
AGRA	African-led institution focused on scaling agricultural innovations
ALADI	Latin American Integration Association
APAARI	Asia-Pacific Association of Agricultural Research Institutions
ASEAN	Association of Southeast Asian Nations
AU(C)	African Union (Commission)
AU-IAPSC	African Union – Inter-African Phytosanitary Council
BEE	Beekeeping Enabling Environment
CABI	Centre for Agriculture and Biosciences International
CODEX	Codex Alimentarius Commission
COLEAD	Committee Linking Entrepreneurship-Agriculture-Development
COPE	Centre of Phytosanitary Excellence
CSIR-STEPRI	CSIR-Science and Technology Policy Research Institute
CUTS	Consumer Unity & Trust Society
DFAT	Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (Australia)
EAC	East African Community
ECAC	Electronic Certification Advisory Committee
eCert	Electronic Certification
EIF	Enhanced Integrated Framework
EOI	Expression of Interest
ePhyto	Electronic Phytosanitary Certificate
EU	European Union
eVet	Electronic Veterinary Certificate
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
FBO	Food Business Operator
FMD	Foot-and-mouth disease
FSSC	Food Safety System Certification
FTCA	Food Trade Coalition for Africa
GAP	Good Agricultural Practice
GATF	Global Alliance for Trade Facilitation
GMP	Good Manufacturing Practice
G-PPP	Grassroots-Public Private Partnership
GRP	Good Regulatory Practice
HACCP	Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point
ICGEB	International Centre for Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology
IFC	International Finance Corporation
IGAD	Intergovernmental Authority on Development
IICA	Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture
INTPA	Directorate-General for International Partnerships (European Commission)
IPPC	International Plant Protection Convention
ISF	International Seed Federation

ISO	International Organization for Standardization
ITC	International Trade Centre
LDC	Least Developed Country
MEL	Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding
MRL	Maximum Residue Level
MSME	Micro, small and medium-sized enterprise
MUF	Minor Use Foundation
ODA	Official Development Assistance
OIF	International Organisation of La Francophonie
OIRSA	International Regional Organization for Agricultural Health
PCE	Phytosanitary Capacity Evaluation
PG	Project Grant
P-IMA	Prioritizing SPS Investments for Market Access
PPG	Project Preparation Grant
PPP	Public-Private Partnership
PVS	Performance of Veterinary Services
RASFF	Rapid Alert System for Food and Feed (EU)
REC	Regional Economic Community
RIA	Regulatory Impact Assessment
SADC	Southern Africa Development Community
SDG	Sustainable Development Goal
SICA	Central American Integration System
SPS	Sanitary and Phytosanitary
STDF	Standards and Trade Development Facility
TBT	Technical Barriers to Trade
TMA	TradeMark Africa
TFAF	Trade Facilitation Agreement Facility
TORs	Terms of Reference
TRACES	Trade Control and Expert System (EU)
UN	United Nations
UNICC	United Nations International Computing Centre
UNIDO	United Nations Industrial Development Organization
US	United States
USDA	United States Department of Agriculture
US FDA	United States Food and Drug Administration
vTPA	Voluntary Third-Party Assurance
WBG	World Bank Group
WHO	World Health Organization
WOAH	World Organisation for Animal Health
WTO	World Trade Organization

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Designed and printed by

Graphic and Event Design, Print and Distribution Section, WTO

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Published June 2025

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