

STDF Workshop for the Asia Pacific Region

Use of Multi-Criteria Decision Analysis to Inform Decision-making on Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) Capacity-Building

Novotel Siam Centre, Bangkok, 12th and 13th November 2012

Provisional Programme

Overview

The Standards and Trade Development Facility (STDF) has supported the development of a decision-support tool based on Multi Criteria Decision Analysis (MCDA) to help developing countries prioritize options for the enhancement of sanitary and phytosanitary (SPS) capacity. The purpose of this tool is to improve the effectiveness of decisions on where to allocate public, private and/or donor resources aimed at strengthening SPS capacity. As such, the tool helps to: (i) enhance the economic efficiency of SPS resource allocation decisions, such that scarce resources are allocated in a manner that best meets a country's economic development, poverty alleviation, public health and/or other objectives; (ii) promote more transparent and accountable choices between multiple investment options; and (iii) facilitate more inclusive decision-making processes involving diverse stakeholders.

To date, the MCDA framework has been applied in Mozambique, Zambia, Malawi, Belize and Vietnam to identify and prioritize options to strengthen SPS capacity. These applications have been beneficial in assisting decision-makers to identify priorities that might guide the allocation of resources by government agencies, the private sector and/or donors in their countries. They have also been invaluable to efforts to refine and improve the process through which the framework is operationalized.

Regional Workshop on the Use of MCDA to Inform SPS Decision-making in the Asia Pacific Region

The purpose of the regional workshop will be to: (i) present the MCDA approach; (ii) share practical experiences from Vietnam and Belize where the approach has been used in consultation with national public and private sector stakeholders; and (iii) equip SPS experts from selected other countries in the Asia Pacific Region with knowledge and skills to apply this approach.

Participants are expected to comprise mid- to high-level officials with direct responsibility for food safety, animal health, plant health and/or trade. Participants will be encouraged to disseminate and make use of the MCDA approach in their own work, in consultation with relevant stakeholders, after the event.

Monday 12th November

8.30: Registration

9.00: Welcome and opening remarks

9.15: Introduction to the STDF and its work

10.00: Aims of workshops

10.15: *Coffee*

10.45: Overview of multi-criteria decision-making framework (MCDA) for establishing SPS capacity-building priorities

12.15: Using the MCDA Framework: Experiences from Belize

12.45: *Lunch*

13.45: Presentation of Aflandia case study

14.15: Break-out session: Defining capacity-building options for Aflandia case study

15.00: *Coffee*

15.30: Feedback session on defining capacity-building options for Aflandia case study

16.15: Break-out session: Defining information cards for Aflandia case study

17.55: Summary of day one

18.00: Close of day one

Tuesday 13th November

9.00: Overview of day two

9.05: Feedback session on information cards for Aflandia case study

10.30: *Coffee*

11.00: Demonstration and application of multi-criteria decision-making software

13.00: *Lunch*

14.00: Demonstration and application of multi-criteria decision-making software

14.45: Application of the MCDA Framework: Experiences from Vietnam

15.15: *Coffee*

15.45: General discussion of experiences and expectations

16.45: Conclusions and wrap-up

17.00: Close of day two