

Managing the risk of COVID-19 across STDF's Global Partnership Report on response measures: 30 November 2020

Overview

1. The COVID-19 pandemic provides a clear reminder of the ease and speed at which pests and diseases can spread worldwide and the inter-connectedness of global supply chains, underscoring the importance of building food safety and plant and animal health capacity as a global public good. The crisis highlights how the STDF's global partnership and its vision of sustainable economic growth, poverty reduction and food security are more critical than ever. It points to the value of a global, multi-stakeholder approach to address critical trade challenges, including sanitary and phytosanitary gaps, so the public and private sector are better equipped and more resilient to respond.

2. This report provides an updated analysis of the impact of COVID-19 on STDF's work, and the ongoing measures being taken to manage the situation, in follow-up to the first risk management report.¹ Targeted at STDF partners, donors and other stakeholders involved in STDF's global partnership, it describes and analyses the nature and evolution of risks faced, as well as mitigation measures taken across STDF's global platform, knowledge work and project portfolio, linked to the [STDF Strategy 2020-2024](#). This review also provides an opportunity for all the stakeholders involved in STDF's work to exchange experiences and learning on the risk management response to COVID-19. As such, it facilitates ongoing dialogue to consider the implications of the pandemic for STDF's work, including opportunities triggered by the pandemic to encourage innovations and efficiencies more broadly.

3. When COVID-19 was declared a global pandemic on 11 March 2020, the STDF Secretariat put in place a range of actions, in close cooperation with partners and other members of the partnership, to mitigate and manage the risk, as far as reasonably possible, across all workstreams. When the first COVID-19 risk management report was issued on 30 April 2020, there was considerable uncertainty regarding how quickly STDF operations could return to the "normal" (pre-pandemic) situation. In the months following May 2020, it became clear that, without a clear end to the pandemic in sight, the STDF would need to continue to adapt and increase remote delivery of a large share of its work. As a result, facilitating a smooth adaptation and ensuring business continuity have been key priorities in the second half of 2020. At the same time, STDF projects continue to face and manage other risks such as civil unrest.

STDF's Global platform: virtual meetings and communications ensure continuity

4. Following the success of the virtual STDF Working Group meeting on 7 April 2020, the second Working Group meeting in October 2020 was also held virtually. This decision was informed by consultations with STDF partners and other members, positive feedback received after the April meeting,² and continued uncertainty about the possibility of international travel. In comparison to the meeting in April 2020, which turned to a virtual format at relatively short notice, there was more time to plan the October meeting. The meeting took place over three days to allow time for agenda items not covered in April to be addressed and to facilitate engagement of members in different time zones. An online survey carried out after the October meeting confirmed that members were generally very satisfied with the planning and delivery of the virtual meeting in October.³

5. The meeting on 13-15 October enabled members to address key aspects of STDF's work, across the global platform, knowledge work and new applications for projects and PPGs. The

¹The first risk management report, issued on 30 April 2020, is available at: standardsfacility.org/sites/default/files/STDF_Risk_Management_COVID-19.pdf

²Feedback after the Working Group meeting in April 2020 was overwhelmingly positive. Participants recognized the value of the Secretariat's planning and communications in advance, the focused agenda, and the excellent delivery and chairing of the meeting. See the report documenting the findings to the Working Group survey, as well as the summary report, presentations, etc., at: standardsfacility.org/working-group-documents

³A short report of the survey findings is available at: standardsfacility.org/working-group-documents

Secretariat provided a presentation on its ongoing work on STDF's evidence-based framework to prioritize SPS investment priorities (P-IMA),⁴ as well as updates on other knowledge work on public-private partnerships,⁵ good regulatory practice,⁶ and electronic certification.⁷ It included a special item on risk management related to COVID-19 where members shared information.⁸ The new STDF Communications Plan and the Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning (MEL) Framework (see below) were approved. The Working Group approved four new [PPGs](#) and two [projects](#). Overall, the meeting supported adaptation and continuity across STDF's work.⁹

6. A series of virtual meetings was key to the development and finalization of both the STDF Communications Plan and the STDF's MEL Framework. The Communications Plan was developed by STDF's Communications Consultant based on discussions with counterparts in STDF members, as well as a short survey. STDF members also engaged actively in the MEL Practitioner Group, which met virtually nine times from 5 June to 3 September 2020. Following extensive work, the Secretariat discussed the draft MEL Framework with members during a Zoom meeting on 24 September 2020. Subsequently, it revised the MEL Framework for consideration by the Working Group in October 2020. This work provided an additional opportunity to reflect more fully on all the risks, assumptions and mitigation strategies relevant to the STDF's operations, including the global pandemic.

7. In addition to the Working Group, the Secretariat took forward other activities to promote continuity on the STDF's global platform. These included a webinar, "Future-proofing safe trade during COVID-19", on 26 May 2020 to discuss the challenges posed by the pandemic for SPS capacity development and increase access to guidance materials and other resources available. Representatives of STDF partners and donors spoke at the webinar, which reached over 250 participants globally.¹⁰ The STDF COVID-19 [webpage](#) was also updated.

8. The STDF Secretariat participated in some 36 online events organized by STDF partners and others since March 2020. It launched a new series of regional webinars targeted primarily at stakeholders in developing countries. The webinar for the Pacific took place on 7 October 2020 (with 56 participants) and for the Asia region on 5 November 2020 (with 80 participants). Engaging developing country experts, as well as STDF donors and partners and others involved in STDF projects regionally, these online events provided an opportunity for outreach on the STDF, including to promote greater access to STDF good practices and knowledge products, and to engage directly with diverse stakeholders. Further regional webinars are planned for Anglophone and Francophone Africa, and Latin America.

STDF Knowledge work: continuing to adapt and innovate

9. The STDF COVID-19 risk management report issued in April 2020 identified knowledge work as relatively less affected by COVID-19 than projects and PPGs. Since May 2020, knowledge work continued to advance on several topics including Good Regulatory Practice, Public-Private Partnerships, electronic SPS certification and use of STDF's evidence-based framework to Prioritize SPS Investments for Market Access (P-IMA).

10. The value of Practitioner Groups, identified in the STDF Strategy as an important tool to support delivery, became even more obvious in the context of the pandemic. Practitioner Groups on key STDF knowledge topics have met via Zoom to exchange experiences and learnings, and discuss relevant issues and trends.

- The Electronic Certification Advisory Committee (ECAC) met on 18 March and 24 June 2020, with a third meeting planned on 2 December 2020.¹¹ Approximately 20 representatives from STDF partners and other members attended both meetings, discussing results and experiences in STDF's [ePhyto](#) and [eVet](#) projects, and sharing updates on other work on electronic certification. During the June meeting, the European Commission presented the connection between the ePhyto system and the EU Trade Control and Expert System (TRACES).

⁴ See: www.standardsfacility.org/prioritizing-sps-investments-market-access-p-ima

⁵ See: www.standardsfacility.org/public-private-partnerships

⁶ See: www.standardsfacility.org/good-regulatory-practice

⁷ See: www.standardsfacility.org/SPS-eCert

⁸ See: standardsfacility.org/stdf-partnership-updates-covid-19

⁹ The summary report of the meeting is available at: standardsfacility.org/working-group-documents

¹⁰ See: standardsfacility.org/future-proofing-safe-trade-during-covid-19

¹¹ See: www.standardsfacility.org/sps-ecac

- The PPP Practitioner Group was launched on 30 September, with a second meeting on 19 November 2020.¹² Over 20 experts attended each meeting, including some who had not previously joined STDF meetings. Both meetings saw very active engagement, dialogue and exchange, with several requests to present ongoing work at future meetings. A presentation by the OIE on its work on PPPs in the animal health area on 19 November was appreciated and generated a lively discussion, including several suggestions for further STDF work on PPPs.
- The P-IMA Practitioner Group held its first meeting on 11 November 2020 with over 35 participants. The virtual format renewed interest of STDF Working Group members and other experts in evidence-based SPS decision-making. Several organizations (including Working Group members and others in Asia and the Caribbean who have not previously been involved in STDF meetings) shared information on their use of P-IMA. This included experiences (using video and data collection surveys) to pilot the first fully virtual application of the P-IMA framework in the Bahamas to support SPS strategy development. Learnings from this work are being reflected in ongoing work to develop a set of online P-IMA training materials, including a facilitators' training module, which will support improved outreach and training on P-IMA, as well as delivery of a PPG on P-IMA in Latin America.

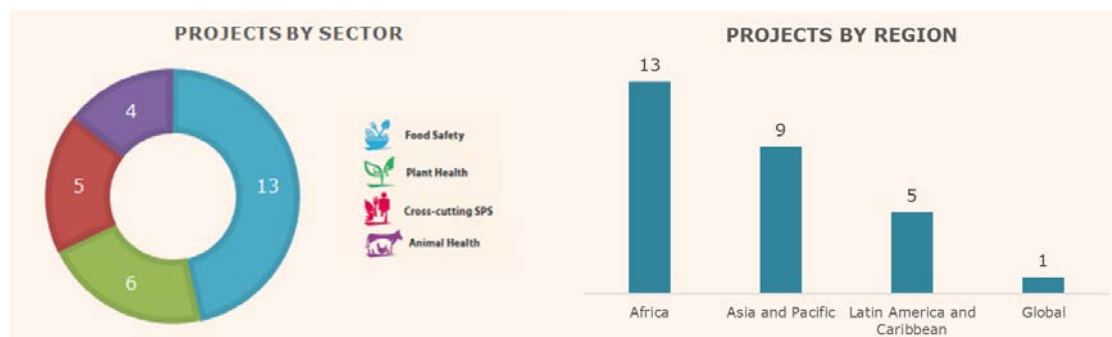
11. The Practitioner Group meetings have highlighted the value of focused and informal discussions to identify and discuss new opportunities for collaboration and synergies on knowledge topics, linked to STDF's two outcomes. The Secretariat is tracking these opportunities as part of its new MEL Framework. The pandemic has also drawn attention to the importance and relevance of STDF's work on e-certification. Since March 20120, several members notified new SPS measures to the WTO aimed at facilitating trade by temporarily easing product certification requirements and moving towards more electronic/digital procedures. This trend towards trade-facilitating electronic certification procedures was highlighted by WTO Members at the COVID-19 session on 24 June 2020.¹³

12. New content on the Practitioner Groups and their online meetings was added to the STDF website. The new STDF MEL companion tool, which will be developed as part of the MEL Framework, will provide an online platform to further support the development of Practitioner Groups into effective communities of practice.

STDF's Project and PPG portfolio: ongoing risk management and adaptation

13. Since May 2020, COVID-19 has continued to disrupt the implementation and delivery of STDF's projects and PPGs in various ways. The pandemic has also caused wide-ranging challenges to the overall context in which STDF projects operate in countries and regions, provoking further shocks to agricultural production, distribution and trade, as well as SPS management functions such as inspection and surveillance.

14. In mid-November 2020, STDF had 28 projects and 15 PPGs under implementation and/or at the pre-contracting stage (see below). Annex 1 provides additional information on all ongoing projects and PPGs.



¹² See: www.standardsfacility.org/stdf-public-private-partnerships-ppps-practitioner-group

¹³ See: www.wto.org/english/news_e/news20_e/sps_24jun20_e.htm



15. The STDF Secretariat continues to maintain close contact with organizations implementing STDF projects, as well as PPG organizations/consultants, on the implications of the COVID-19 crisis and is proactively providing advice and guidance. Prior to the STDF Working Group meeting in 2020, all project implementing organizations were requested to: (i) update their project risk matrix; and (ii) review and update the project work plans, budgets and logical frameworks as a result of the pandemic.

Impact on STDF projects

16. Organizations implementing STDF projects have continued to demonstrate their flexibility and commitment to respond to the situation. This has included ongoing efforts to implement and refine risk mitigation and management strategies to limit the impact of COVID-19 on operations and delivery, as far as possible. These efforts mainly comprise: i) business continuity to adapt and ensure delivery wherever possible; ii) ongoing review and analysis of work plans and disbursements to understand opportunities for modifications, improvements and/or innovations; and iii) preparatory work to enable other activities to resume as soon as possible.

17. In most cases, this proactive response is creating the foundation for projects to get back up to full speed as quickly and smoothly as possible, once the global pandemic is under control. It is also enabling some projects to innovate in response to new opportunities posed by the unprecedented situation (see Box). While innovations like the ones presented below take substantial time and effort, as well as a willingness to occasionally miss the mark, they are essential to ensure operational continuity in the face of the pandemic. They are also important to test alternative ideas and approaches that could add value to the STDF's work in the future. However, implementing partners in some projects – especially ones that already faced complex challenges before the pandemic and/or including activities that are difficult to implement online (e.g. laboratory capacity building) – are still trying to figure out how best to adapt to the situation, with project results likely to be impacted.

Box 1. Innovating in response to the COVID-19 pandemic: Experiences from STDF projects

Spices Strengthening the spice value chain and improving market access: In India, FAO is carrying out work remotely – engaging students at universities close to the project sites and using short videos in local languages – to collect baselines for monitoring and evaluation under the spices project. The experience of working remotely on M&E is likely to be of interest for other STDF projects and is being followed closely. The Spices Board India and FAO organized a virtual project inception workshop on 22 October 2020, which brought together over 70 stakeholders, including high-level decision-makers and Parliamentarians, to discuss project expectations, outcomes and risk mitigation measures linked to the pandemic.

Rolling out a system's approach globally: Given the challenges to organize face-to-face trainings, IPPC has turned to online learning using the available budget to develop new web-based tools that will support the systems approach. This is expected to significantly enhance the reach, results and sustainability of the project. In parallel, the UN International Computing Center is examining the feasibility to include these new online tools within the ePhyto portal.

Promoting IT solutions for surveillance and pest reporting: In Asia and the Pacific, the Australian Department of Agriculture investigated options to use e-learning and online surveillance to support knowledge sharing across the project countries. This included a look at how to better

harness new technologies to improve pest surveillance in the future – such as drones and internet-connected smart-traps – building on the project's use to date of the innovative P-Tracker tool.

Residue mitigation through biopesticides: In Asia, APAARI and IR-4 developed a plan to roll out laboratory training via video conferencing – engaging trainers from the United States and Singapore, alongside lab technicians and other government officials in countries across Asia. While this video-conferenced training was not able to achieve the same results as face-to-face training, it has enabled the field and lab studies to move ahead and to reach to a larger audience than initially expected.

Mainstreaming SPS investments into CAADP: For the first time, COMESA organized hybrid meetings (combining in-person and online formats) in November 2020 to enable stakeholders in Uganda and Kenya to discuss and validate the findings of national P-IMA reports. National stakeholders joined the meeting from government premises, while other stakeholders from the COMESA Secretariat, STDF Secretariat and development partners patched in virtually.

18. While some of the initial movement restrictions – including domestic travel and bans on group gatherings – were gradually lifted since May 2020, other challenges related to COVID-19 have persisted. For instance, restrictions and uncertainty related to international travel continues to impact delivery of many activities requiring on-the-ground expertise or training from external partners or consultants.

19. Implementing organizations have proposed and rolled out risk mitigation and response measures tailored to the individual situation. This has been facilitated by the extensive project management experience of many implementing organizations including CABI, COLEACP, FAO, IICA, ITC and UNIDO.

20. In some cases, with the urgency of addressing the huge health implications and economic challenges related to COVID-19, project implementing partners have reported a drop in high-level attention and interest in the project activities. While this is regrettable, it is understandable. At the same time, implementing partners have reported additional workload linked to staff absences (linked to health, quarantine and care reasons) and the challenges of adapting to off-site work.

21. In November 2020, STDF projects continue to face many of the same risks identified in the previous risk mitigation report, notably:

- **Lower than expected delivery in 2020:** While many projects have been able to adjust and re-programme activities to some degree, delivery in 2020 has inevitably been affected by delays and challenges. In many cases, while some activities are advancing, the overall pace and results are lower than what would have been expected in the absence of a pandemic.
- **Capacity building and training activities cancelled and/or postponed:** In several projects, capacity building and training activities scheduled for 2020 and targeted at farmers, as well as public and private sector stakeholders, have been cancelled and/or postponed. This has been especially true for training activities that depend on physical visits and face-to-face exchange, particularly in environments where Internet access is limited or challenging.
- **Under-spending and/or increased strain on remaining budgets:** With some exceptions, project spending in 2020 appears to be lower than expected. Some projects are reallocating funds for international/regional travel and workshops to new activities (e.g. development of new online resources and tools, see Box above). Some have reallocated budgeted slightly to purchase masks, disposable gloves and hand sanitizers to enable training to take place with social distancing measures. In one country, the extremely high cost of Internet and other IT services, combined with inflation at over 170%, initially seriously limited opportunities to move activities and meetings online, as well as causing other strains on the project budget. Despite the huge challenges, the project partners have found issues faced, highlighting their ability to adapt.
- **Challenges to maintain in-kind contributions at the planned levels:** Given the slow-down in agri-food exports and other economic activities expected to result from COVID-19, governments' operating budgets are being affected. It is still too early to say if and how this may affect funding allocations to line ministries for their in-kind contributions to STDF projects.

- **Increased likelihood of requests for project extensions:** Three projects were scheduled for completion in 2020, two have already been completed with the third expected to conclude by the end of 2020 as planned. FAO has already requested a no-cost one-year extension for the India Spices project, originally scheduled for completion in 2022. Given the duration and severity of the pandemic, it is likely that other extension requests will follow, particularly for some of the eleven projects scheduled to end in 2021. The STDF Secretariat is in contact with implementing partners on this matter.
- **Gender equity:** It is clear that COVID-19 has an important impact on gender equity, as well as vulnerable or marginalized groups. Women and other vulnerable groups already face more challenges when it comes to benefitting from agricultural production and trade. Generally, women are less able to access agricultural inputs, services and markets, and face higher transaction costs crossing borders as informal traders. The planned STDF in-depth study on gender (approved by the Working Group in October 2020) will be important to better understand and analyse the gender impacts as the situation further develops.

Ongoing and planned COVID-19 risk mitigation measures across projects

22. Implementing organizations continue to review the situation related to COVID-19, in consultation with other partners and stakeholders involved. The risks are being managed in different ways, depending on the specific project context and situation. Decisions are being taken on an ongoing basis on how best to adapt and ensure continuity on planning, delivery and spending. This has included revisions to project work plans and budgets.

23. **Ongoing contingency planning and adaptation measures:** Examples of ongoing contingency planning and adaptation measures taken across STDF's project portfolio include:

- **Consulting key stakeholders on the way forward and reviewing preparedness.** Partners in several projects have continued to consult and engage key stakeholders through phone and online meetings to get their views on risk mitigation. These steps are important to maintain the momentum and keep all stakeholders engaged. At the same time, since May 2020, project stakeholders have a better understanding of the opportunities and challenges to adapt to the new context.
- **Moving meetings online.** Many project meetings have moved meetings online, with training workshops and project steering committee meetings taking place virtually rather than face-to-face. The STDF Secretariat has participated in appropriately 12 virtual project inception, validation or steering committee meetings since COVID-19 was declared a pandemic in March 2020. In some cases, the move to online meetings has enable some stakeholders, who may not otherwise have been able to attend, to participate
- **Adapting field activities to social distancing.** In several projects, including in Cameroon, Guinea, India, Papua New Guinea and Togo, training and other field-based activities have moved ahead, adapted to new social distancing norms. For instance, COLEACP has developed new digitalized training modules to roll out training for government inspectors, the private sector and farmers under STDF projects in Togo and Guinea.
- **Advancing on desk-based activities and studies.** Implementing organizations have advanced on desk-based activities. For instance, the IPPC Secretariat and Imperial College London have been able to develop curriculum and tutorials as part of the global systems approach project. In STDF's project in Zambia, work has advanced on a desk study of phytosanitary legislation in SADC, and budget for a face-to-face regional workshop was reallocated towards a desktop review of regional pest surveillance programmes for presentation at a virtual meeting.

24. **Communications:** Project implementing organizations continue to ensure frequent and targeted communications with project beneficiaries and other stakeholders to maintain trust and commitment. Some projects have developed communication plans in this regard. Communications and outreach activities are taking place in local languages. Social media channels (e.g. Facebook, WhatsApp groups) are being used.

25. **Increased use of national consultants and hybrid arrangements:** Wherever possible, project implementing partners have turned to national consultants. In Togo and Guinea, COLEACP is using hybrid arrangements, whereby international experts provide online support and guidance to national experts. This arrangement has been working well and has the advantage of supporting capacity development of local experts. In STDF's projects in Kyrgyz Republic and Sudan, FAO and UNIDO experts are joining face-to-face workshops electronically.

26. **Internet access and training on video conferencing:** Alongside organization of virtual meetings, some projects have provided support (laptops, Internet access keys, technical guidance) to enable key stakeholders to access and/or use these tools, where project delivery has been affected. Some implementing organizations have delivered targeted training to enable in-country partners to set-up and carry out digital-based training using online course and video content.

27. **Ex-post project evaluations:** In October 2019, the Working Group selected two projects for ex post evaluation (STDF/PG/242 in Comoros and STDF/PG/345 in Latin America). These two project evaluations were contracted in November 2020 with international consultants. Desk-based evaluation work is now underway. If travel becomes possible at the start of 2021, in-country missions may be organized. If not, the evaluations will be delivered remotely.

Impact and risk mitigation measures across PPGs

28. The COVID-19 pandemic is also impacting the implementation and delivery of STDF PPGs. The STDF Secretariat is in close contact with key organizations and consultants responsible for the delivery of work under ongoing PPGs, as well as those with whom PPG contracts are planned, to review the situation, provide necessary guidance and ensure that work is able to move forward as far as reasonably possible. Given their reliance on international experts, and challenges related to international travel, the delivery of PPGs (contracting, mission travel, delivery of reports) has been delayed. Cases in which individual international consultants have been supported by a national consultant (e.g. PPG/672 Senegal) have proven to be very effective in advancing work in the country and in developing local capacity.

Annex 1

Table 1: STDF Projects

Code	Project Title	Beneficiary	Implementing organization	Start year	End year
STDF/PG/375	Strategy for strengthening Togo's SPS system	Togo	Europe-Africa-Caribbean-Pacific Liaison Committee (COLEACP)	2018	2021
STDF/PG/432	Promoting IT solutions for surveillance and pest reporting	Cambodia, Lao, Malaysia, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Thailand, Vietnam	Australia's Department of Agriculture and Water Resources (DAWR)	2016	2020
STDF/PG/435	Upgrading the Sudanese sesame seed value chain	Sudan	United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO)	2018	2021
STDF/PG/447	Improving food safety in honey and apricots to boost exports	Tajikistan	International Trade Centre (ITC)	2018	2021
STDF/PG/477	Improving sanitary capacity to facilitate livestock exports	Ethiopia	FAO Ethiopia	2018	2021
STDF/PG/481	Strengthening phytosanitary capacity for plant exports	Zambia	EIF National Implementation Unit, Zambia	2018	2021
STDF/PG/495	Accreditation of diagnostic tests for animal diseases	Belize, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, Panama	Organismo Internacional Regional de Sanidad Agropecuaria (OIRSA)	2016	2021
STDF/PG/498	Strengthening Guinea's phytosanitary system	Guinea	Europe-Africa-Caribbean-Pacific Liaison Committee (COLEACP)	2019	2022
STDF/PG/503	Rolling out systems approach globally	Developing countries	International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC) Secretariat	2018	2021
STDF/PG/517	Strengthening the spice value chain in India and improving market access	India	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)	2019	2023*

Code	Project Title	Beneficiary	Implementing organization	Start year	End year
STDF/PG/521	Laboratory capacity building to support fish exports	Solomon Islands	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)	2017	2021
STDF/PG/534	Piloting an improved animal identification and registration system	Mongolia	FAO Mongolia	2019	2021
STDF/PG/543	Enhancing the capacity of Uganda's fruit and vegetable sector to comply with EU Phytosanitary requirements	Uganda	Centre for Agricultural Bioscience International (CABI)	2019	2022
STDF/PG/553	Expanding cocoa trade	Papua New Guinea	PNG Cocoa Board	2018	2021
STDF/PG/566	Reduction of aflatoxin contamination in Burkina Faso maize	Burkina Faso	EIF National Implementation Unit, Burkina Faso	2019	2022
STDF/PG/567	Establishment and maintenance of fruit production areas free and under low prevalence of fruit fly pests	Mozambique, South Africa	Agricultural Research Council-Tropical and Subtropical Crops (ARC-TSC)	2020	2023
STDF/PG/569	Enhancing capacity for food safety management in the Kyrgyz fruit and vegetable industry	Kyrgyz Republic	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)	2020	2022
STDF/PG/577**	Improving coordination to support management of cadmium levels in cocoa in Latin America and the Caribbean	Colombia, Ecuador, Peru, Trinidad & Tobago	IICA	TBD	TBD
STDF/PG/578	Online inspection, control and surveillance system for food of animal origin	Costa Rica	Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA)	2017	2020
STDF/PG/593	Improving SPS capacity in the Penja pepper value chain	Cameroon	Europe-Africa-Caribbean-Pacific Liaison Committee (COLEACP)	2019	2022

Code	Project Title	Beneficiary	Implementing organization	Start year	End year
STDF/PG/606	Mainstreaming SPS investments into CAADP and other frameworks	COMESA members	Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA)	2018	2021
STDF/PG/611 **	Promotion of Codex standards and codes of practice in the smoked fish sector and consequences on food safety in other sectors in Mali	Mali	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)	2021	2024
STDF/PG/619	Safer spices: boosting food safety and market access for the peppercorn value chain	Cambodia, Lao PDR, Viet Nam	CABI South East Asia	2020	2023
STDF/PG/634	Asia Pesticide Residue Mitigation through the Promotion of Biopesticides and Enhancement of Trade Opportunities	Bangladesh, Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Nepal, Sri Lanka	Asia-Pacific Association of Agricultural Research Institutions (APAARI)	2020	2023
STDF/PG/665	Piloting the use of voluntary Third-Party Assurance Programmes in Africa (Mali and Senegal) to improve food safety outcomes for public health and trade	Mali and Senegal	United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO)	2020	2023
STDF/PG/681	Improving institutional capacity to mitigate trade barriers due to high cadmium levels in cacao	Colombia, Ecuador	Katholieke Universiteit Leuven (KU Leuven)	2020	2023
STDF/PG/682	Piloting the use of Third-Party Assurance Programmes in Central America (Belize and Honduras) to improve food safety outcomes for public health and trade	Belize and Honduras	Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA)	2020	2023
STDF/PG/694**	Enhancing Trade Through Regulatory Harmonisation and Biopesticide-Based Residue Mitigation in the SADC Region	Botswana, Kenya, Mozambique, South Africa, Tanzania, Zambia, Zimbabwe	International Centre for Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology (ICGEB)	TBD	TBD

* One year no-cost extension requested and granted

** In the process of contracting or still to be contracted

Table 2: STDF PPGs

Code	PPG Title	Beneficiary
STDF/PPG/616	Supporting the establishment of a bee sanctuary in Niue	Niue
STDF/PPG/665	Piloting the use of TPA programmes to improve food safety outcomes for public health and trade in Africa	Mali, Senegal, Uganda
STDF/PPG/669	Promote compliance with international SPS requirements in food of animal origin and feed for food-producing animals	Afghanistan
STDF/PPG/672	Strengthening SPS capacity in the shellfish sector in Senegal	Senegal
STDF/PPG/694	Overcoming Barriers to Trade Through Regulatory Harmonization and Related Research with Biopesticides for the SADC Region	SADC member states
STDF/PPG/709	Applying the P-IMA tool in Ecuador	Ecuador
STDF/PPG/716**	Food Safety Risk Analysis capacity building programme in Latin America	Colombia, Costa Rica, Honduras, Nicaragua, Panama
STDF/PPG/720*	Assessing the Establishment of a HPAI Free Compartment in Egypt	Egypt
STDF/PPG/721	Strengthening food safety and quality compliance in select spices	Sri Lanka
STDF/PPG/722*	Piloting the use of Regulatory Impact Assessment in the agriculture and fisheries sector	Philippines
STDF/PPG/733*	Piloting the use of P-IMA in the CARICOM region	CARICOM countries
STDF/PPG/734*	Strengthening Capacity for border inspection and control of plants, animals and their products for biosecurity and food safety in Bhutan	Bhutan
STDF/PPG/753*	Latin American Residue Mitigation through the Promotion of Biopesticides	Latin America
STDF/PPG/755*	Enhancing seed trade in the Asia Pacific region through phytosanitary compliance and public private partnerships	Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar, Thailand, Vietnam
STDF/PPG/765*	ISO 17025 accredited mobile laboratory for food safety testing in the SADC region	Eswatini, Lesotho, Namibia, South Africa
STDF/PPG/767*	Feasibility study on implementation of zoning as means to control infectious diseases in aquaculture in Peru	Peru

* To be contracted

** Delay to contract within six-months due to COVID-19. Extension granted to contract PPG