



**Asia-Pacific
Economic Cooperation**

2018/SOM2/SCSC/FSCF/EM/005

A Global Partnership to Facilitate Safe Trade

Submitted by: Standards and Trade Development Facility



**Second Expert Meeting on Trade
Facilitation Through an APEC Framework
on Food Safety Modernisation
Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea
21-22 May 2018**



Standards and Trade
Development Facility

A GLOBAL PARTNERSHIP TO FACILITATE SAFE TRADE

An aerial photograph of a container ship's deck, showing a large number of stacked shipping containers in red, blue, and orange. Some containers have 'HAMBURG SUD' printed on them. A blue crane arm is visible on the left side of the frame. The ship is on a body of water.

www.standardsfacility.org



Standards and Trade
Development Facility

Global partnership that helps developing countries increase their capacity to implement international standards and hence their ability to gain and maintain market access

FOUNDING PARTNERS



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations



WORLD BANK GROUP



**World Health
Organization**



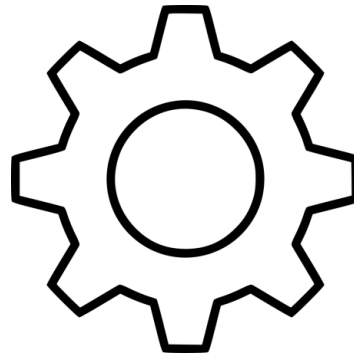
WORLD ORGANISATION FOR ANIMAL HEALTH
Protecting animals, preserving our future



**WORLD TRADE
ORGANIZATION**

Coordination mechanism

to identify good practice,
strengthen coherence,
avoid duplication and enhance
results



Funding mechanism

for project development and
implementation of
innovative, collaborative
projects

1

Seed funding for Project
development →
**Project Preparation Grants
(PPGs)**

up to US\$ 50,000

2

Funding for Project
Implementation →
Project Grants (PGs)

Up to US\$ 1 M



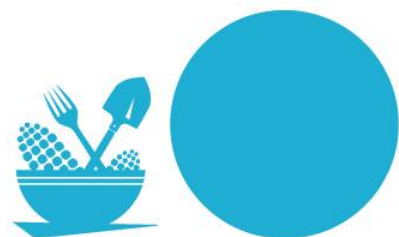
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Assessing food safety capacity needs – APEC countries (PG 173)

US\$ 97,500

Food Standards Australia New Zealand (FSANZ)
2007-2008

STDF PROJECTS IN 2016



Food Safety
12 projects



Plant Health
7 projects



Cross-cutting SPS
3 projects

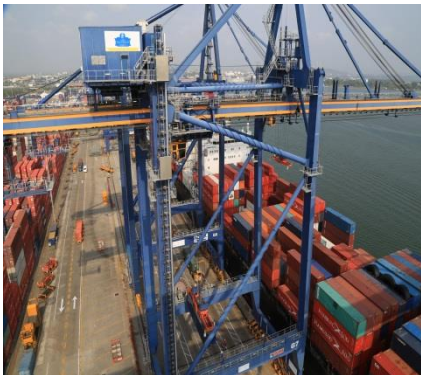


Animal Health
1 project

Facilitating Safe Trade

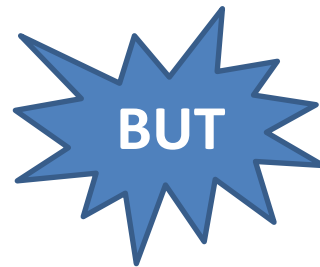
How are SPS Controls implemented in practice?

- Focus on SPS controls for specific products (Article 8/Annex C of WTO SPS Agreement)
- Are there transaction costs that can be reduced, without compromising health objectives?
- What are good practices to ensure health protection, while minimizing transaction costs?



Regional research work in SE Asia and Southern Africa: Key finding

SPS measures may result in justifiable transaction costs based on the need to protect health



Sometimes, ineffective and inefficient SPS controls result in poor health protection – and disrupt trade more than necessary

See: www.standardsfacility.org/facilitating-safe-trade

Examples of SPS-related procedural obstacles to trade

Challenges

- Complex and lengthy procedures
- Excessive document requirements
- Limited information (forms, fees)
- Multiple inspections
- Little coordination between border agencies
- No complaints / appeal procedures

Consequences

- More controls than justifiable
- Longer than necessary waiting times
- Uncertainty
- Increased costs for traders, sometimes also for government

Recommendations to improve health protection and reduce transaction costs

- Implement and improve risk-based border management
- Apply good regulatory practice
- Apply equivalence and seek mutual recognition agreements, where relevant, to prevent duplicative controls in exporting and importing countries (G/SPS/19/Rev.2 – Art. 4 SPS Agreement).
- Improve transparency
- Improve coordination between SPS authorities, and with Customs
- Engage SPS authorities in national trade facilitation committees
- Include SPS controls in national single windows
- Move towards electronic SPS certification

Risk-based border management

In the case of low and medium risk products, the application of risk-based controls in import and export release procedures can greatly contribute to reducing costs for traders and government.

Major reform in various countries is still necessary

How to make sure that SPS measures are "fit for purpose" and that they deliver the intended outcomes?

Good Regulatory Practice (GRP)

Internationally recognized processes, systems, tools and methods to improve the quality of regulations and ensure that regulatory outcomes are effective, transparent, inclusive and sustained (World Bank, 2015)

Application of GRP helps to avoid unnecessary obstacles to trade.

GRP at the WTO

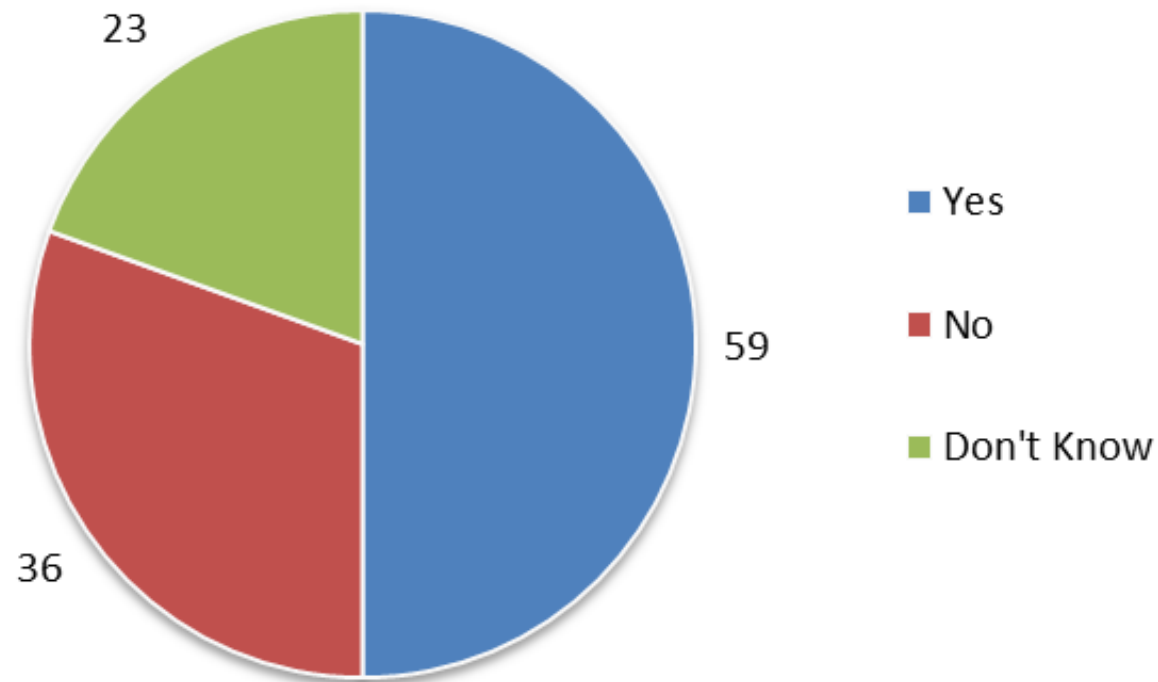
- Has been a major topic in the TBT Committee since 2009.
- In 2012, the TBT Committee agreed to identify a non-exhaustive list of voluntary mechanisms and related principles of GRP.
- **JOB/TBT/119/Rev.1 under discussion**
 - Define the problem, publish a notice, assess options (RIA, use of intl standard as a basis), assess alternatives, transparency and consultation, etc.

Good Regulatory Practice (GRP)

STDF survey of SPS, Codex, IPPC and OIE Contact Points (2017)

- consultations with relevant parts of government, private sector and other stakeholders (why? with whom? do guidelines or procedures exist for consultations?)
- use of international standards (do regulatory requirements exist to consider relevant international standards?)
- assessment of the health impacts of SPS measures (do you use risk assessment guidelines developed by Int. Orgs.?)
- assessment of the expected impacts on trade
- review / evaluation of SPS measures (after they enter into force)

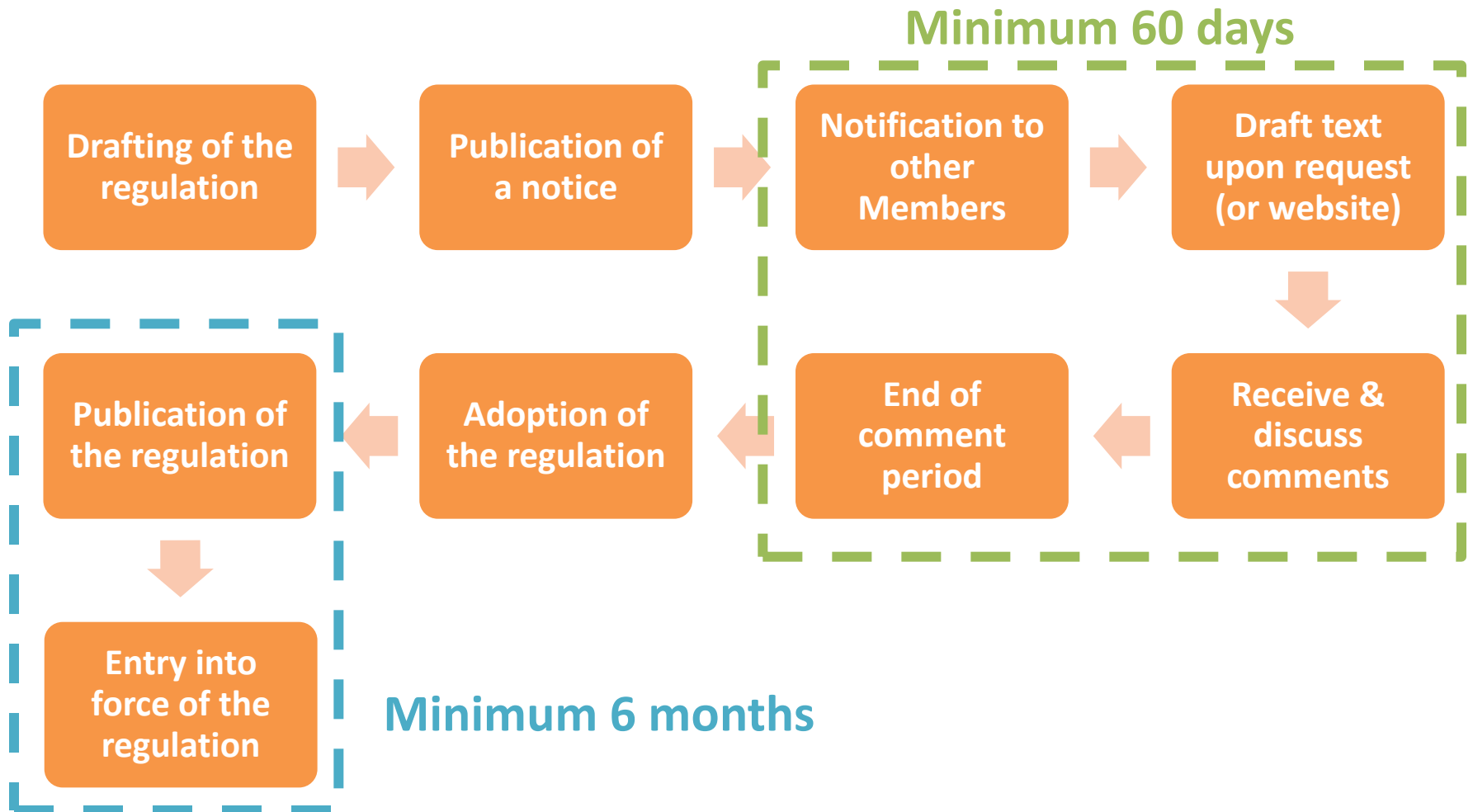
Figure 11: Does your agency review/evaluate SPS measures after their entry into force?



Based on responses from 64 countries/territories

<http://www.standardsfacility.org/good-regulatory-practice>

Transparency timelines for SPS notifications



Register and receive alerts

www.epingalert.org

Register to receive alerts
and access all
functionalities



SPS & TBT notification alert system



WORLD TRADE
ORGANIZATION



International
Trade
Centre

UNITED
NATIONS

search notifications

enquiry points

help

register

log in

EN ▾



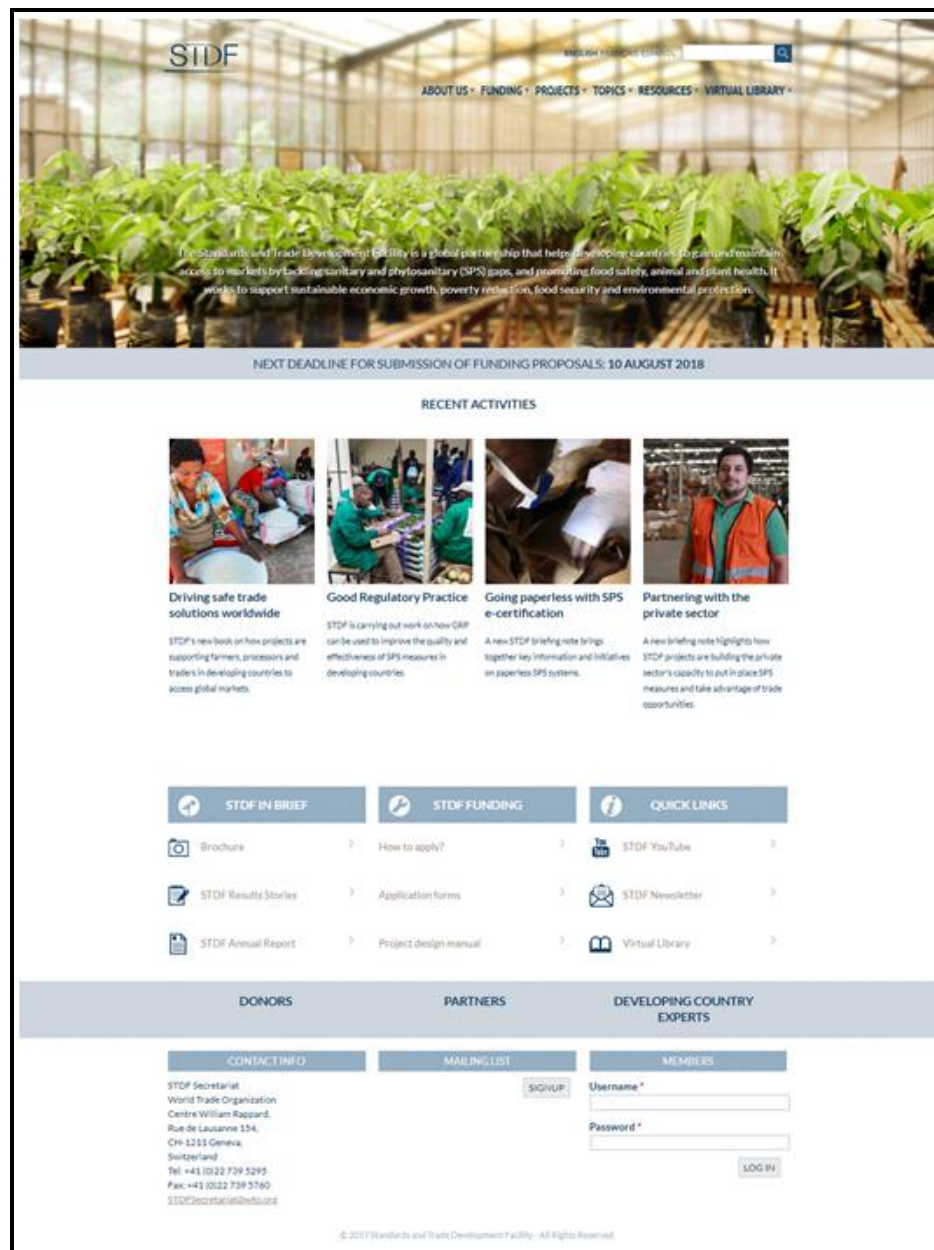
For more information

Standards and Trade Development Facility
World Trade Organization
Rue de Lausanne 154
CH-1211 Geneva
Switzerland

STDFSecretariat@wto.org

www.standardsfacility.org

- Subscribe to receive STDF news
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- Search for documents in STDF Virtual Library



The screenshot shows the STDF (Standards and Trade Development Facility) website. The header features the STDF logo and a navigation menu with links: ABOUT US, FUNDING, PROJECTS, TOPICS, RESOURCES, and VIRTUAL LIBRARY. Below the header is a large banner image of a greenhouse with rows of green plants. Text on the banner reads: "The Standards and Trade Development Facility is a global partnership that helps developing countries to gain and maintain access to markets by tackling sanitary and phytosanitary (SPS) gaps, and promoting food safety, animal and plant health. It works to support sustainable economic growth, poverty reduction, food security and environmental protection." Below the banner, a blue bar states: "NEXT DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION OF FUNDING PROPOSALS: 10 AUGUST 2018".

The main content area is titled "RECENT ACTIVITIES" and features four columns of news items, each with a small image and a title:

- Driving safe trade solutions worldwide**: STDF's new book on how projects are supporting farmers, processors and traders in developing countries to access global markets.
- Good Regulatory Practice**: STDF is carrying out work on how GPP can be used to improve the quality and effectiveness of SPS measures in developing countries.
- Going paperless with SPS e-certification**: A new STDF briefing note brings together key information and initiatives on paperless SPS systems.
- Partnering with the private sector**: A new briefing note highlights how STDF projects are building the private sector's capacity to put in place SPS measures and take advantage of trade opportunities.

Below the activities section are three tabs: "STDF IN BRIEF", "STDF FUNDING", and "QUICK LINKS". Each tab has a list of links with right-pointing arrows:

- STDF IN BRIEF**: Brochure, STDF Results Stories, STDF Annual Report.
- STDF FUNDING**: How to apply?, Application forms, Project design manual.
- QUICK LINKS**: STDF YouTube, STDF Newsletter, Virtual Library.

At the bottom, there are three main sections: "DONORS", "PARTNERS", and "DEVELOPING COUNTRY EXPERTS". Below these are three sub-sections: "CONTACT INFO", "MAILING LIST", and "MEMBERS".

CONTACT INFO includes: STDF Secretariat, World Trade Organization, Centre-William Rappard, Rue de Lausanne 154, CH-1211 Geneva, Switzerland, Tel: +41 (0)22 739 5295, Fax: +41 (0)22 739 3760, and STDFSecretariat@wto.org.

MAILING LIST has a "SIGNUP" button.

MEMBERS has a login form with fields for "Username *" and "Password *", and a "LOG IN" button.

At the very bottom, a small copyright notice reads: "© 2017 Standards and Trade Development Facility - All Rights Reserved."