

**MOBILIZING AID FOR TRADE FOR SPS-RELATED TECHNICAL COOPERATION IN THE
GREATER MEKONG SUB-REGION**

Phnom Penh, Cambodia, 21-22 May 2008

CONCLUSIONS

Overview

1. Within the framework of the Aid for Trade Initiative, on 21-22 May 2008, the STDF brought together representatives from Cambodia, Lao PDR., Viet Nam, Myanmar, China and Thailand as well as officials from a broad cross-section of development partners (including bilateral donor organizations, regional and multilateral institutions) to discuss the mobilisation of capacity building resources in the area of food safety, animal and plant health (collectively known as sanitary and phytosanitary or SPS measures). A list of participants is attached in Annex I.
2. The workshop was the culmination of a year long project to synthesize the results of existing SPS capacity evaluations, to develop an inventory of technical assistance and identify "gaps" where priority SPS needs are not being addressed. It built on the results of an Aid for Trade event held in Manila, the Philippines on 17 September 2007.
3. The workshop reviewed "balance sheets" which compared SPS needs for Cambodia, Lao PDR and Viet Nam with an inventory of SPS related technical cooperation. Needs at regional level were similarly considered. From the comparison, outstanding priority SPS needs not met through current assistance were identified.
4. The following key conclusions emerged from the activity:
 - Participants recognized the value of the STDF work as a basis on which to mobilize the future provision of SPS-related assistance. The research provided a clear outline of needs for Cambodia, Lao PDR., Viet Nam, and at regional level, which was shared both by countries and by development partners.
 - For Cambodia, Lao PDR., Viet Nam, this work had considerable value as it promoted a common vision of outstanding needs. It was a useful basis on which to coordinate the positions of different national actors active in the SPS area.
 - For development partners, the common analysis of outstanding needs provided a clear basis on which to mobilize the provision of future resources for the SPS area. It agreed that the prioritization by beneficiaries of their SPS needs provided an excellent basis from which donors, regional and multilateral organizations could argue for the future provision of resources to address SPS issues.

Outstanding priority needs

5. Standards are a passport for trade. The ability to control SPS risk and meet international standards is a key element determining participation of developing countries in the trading system. It was agreed that to meet poverty reduction and economic development targets, greater attention needed to be paid to this policy area.

6. Outstanding SPS priority needs were considered in detail at national level. Priorities listed in the balance sheets were those not fully addressed through ongoing technical cooperation activities. Needs were listed at an aggregated level in the balance sheets. Additional specific detail was added by participants during the workshop. Outstanding SPS priority needs for Cambodia, Lao PDR, and Viet Nam are set out in Annex II. A list of needs was also prepared by Myanmar and is reproduced in Annex III.

7. Outstanding regional priority SPS action areas identified in the balance sheets and discussed by participants included:

- Joint preparation of priority plant pest lists and lists of plant products by risk for border control measures, in particular for trade with other regions;
- Joint cross-border programmes for the containment and reduction of priority animal diseases and plant pests.² This action could be developed within mutually agreed SPS border procedures for the Greater Mekong Sub-region;
- Exchange of information about major food safety risks (in particular rapid alert systems and emergency contingency planning), animal and plant pests and disease;
- Targeted assistance to the private sector with respect to minimizing food safety risks in the domestic market and in relation to SPS market access issues, such as certification;
- Developing competence in practical risk analysis and management. Practical assistance with risk assessment for market access was recommended;
- Build on existing initiatives by supporting further equivalence and harmonization between GMS countries and the broader ASEAN region, as appropriate;
- Joint monitoring on the use of veterinary medicines and agrochemicals, in particular the exchange of information on registration systems and information on banned agro-chemicals;
- Assessment of national and regional laboratory and other diagnostic facilities in order to establish appropriate networks of laboratory, diagnostic facilities and experts at national and regional level.

² Including aquatic and fishery diseases.

Future supply of technical assistance

8. A total of approximately \$350 million was identified in specific SPS-related technical cooperation for the period 2005-2013. Table 1 below gives an overview of assistance by country, at multi-country level and by SPS thematic sector. It was recognized that the figures in table 1 were an estimate and could miss some assistance provided, but also include some non-SPS items. It was stressed that additional assistance would be allocated in this area and thus the figures would increase further in the period to 2013. The need for balanced assistance across all SPS disciplines (food safety, animal and plant health) was stressed.

9. Appreciation was expressed of the efforts made to bring greater transparency and clarity to the provision of technical assistance in the SPS-related area. The importance of coordination in the provision of assistance and the need to avoid duplication of effort, both on the side of development partners and beneficiaries, were underlined.

10. Consideration was given as to how to mobilize technical cooperation funds to address outstanding SPS priority needs. These needs could be met from a mixture of ongoing, planned and new assistance. A number of important sources of funding were identified and expressions of interest offered to address priority needs.

Table 1: Overview of SPS-related technical cooperation 2005-2013

	Cambodia	Lao PDR	Viet Nam	Multi-country	Total
Food safety	0.6	-	103.6	2	106.2
Plant health	-	-	1.1	3.4	4.4
Animal health	1.8	18.8	35	4.2	59.9
Avian flu	14.1	16.5	38	97.8	166.4
Other issues	0.3	2.4	10.8	-	13.4
Total	16.9	37.7	188.4	107.3	350.3

11. A distinction was made between funding specific to the SPS-area (e.g. to control Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza, HPAI) and assistance which is more general in nature (e.g. for private sector development or trust funds tied to the Integrated Framework). It was noted that one way to obtain "additionality" in SPS-related technical assistance was through access to general funds. A further avenue for funding was concessional lending provided by regional and multilateral financial institutions. SPS had to be prioritized by both national authorities and development partners for access to be given to these funding sources.

12. For SPS issues to be prioritized, their profile had to be raised both within national administrations and with development partners, and greater awareness generated of the positive impacts of addressing them on market access, agricultural productivity and public health. It was recognized that SPS issues had to compete with other thematic areas. Furthermore, SPS assistance was normally provided from a range of different programme areas e.g. rural development, private sector development, agricultural development, environment protection, trade-related technical assistance etc. A case had to be made to be able to access these resources.

13. The prioritization of SPS issues was deemed of particular importance in relation to accessing resources through national multi-donor trust funds in Cambodia, Lao PDR and Viet Nam. Without prioritization, other competing demands would be given precedence.

14. In Cambodia and Lao PDR., the Integrated Framework was recognized as a potential source of funding for SPS issues. It was agreed that consideration should be given to development of an SPS Action Plan for Cambodia by the STDF. Funding for the plan's implementation could then follow through a multi-donor trust fund. It was recognized that the terms of reference for such a plan should enjoy national support and that the Action Plan would benefit from input from various development partners. For Lao PDR. the newly established Trade Development Facility would address a variety of priority SPS issues. Additional funding should also become available for both countries through the enhancement of the IF.

15. South-South cooperation was also of growing importance in the region, stimulated by regional integration through the Greater Mekong Sub-region (GMS), the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), the Ayeyawaddy-Chao Phraya-Mekong Economic Cooperation Strategy (ACMECS) and the common fight against HPAI. Leading this trend were new emerging donors, notably Thailand and China.

16. A series of underlying structural issues related to endemic animal diseases and plant pests were also highlighted. There was general agreement that there were no easy short term solutions to these issues and that they required long term commitment. Mobilization of the international community to address HPAI and Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD) pointed to the possibility of such an approach, but also highlighted the risk of fatigue on the part of development partners in addressing further such issues which might be less pressing in their public health implications. Continued funding to address HPAI should be used to strengthen the general capability of veterinary services in the provision of this "public good".

17. It was agreed that cooperation through GMS should tackle many of the outstanding priority SPS needs identified at regional level. In particular, the Asian Development Bank (ADB) had various projects to implement GMS action plans and the Cross-Border Transport Agreement that would include SPS capacity building. Collaboration between the World Bank and ADB in exploring the possibility of designing concessional investment programmes for Cambodia, Lao PDR and Viet Nam was also noted.

18. The central role played by ASEAN was also underlined. As part of ASEAN Vision 2020, a strategic action plan for cooperation in food, agriculture and forestry (2005-2010) had been agreed. If funded, it would answer many of the outstanding priority needs. APEC was also recognized as an important regional forum through which SPS-related cooperation could flow. APEC's efforts to expand its operations to non-member countries were also appreciated.

Next steps

19. It was decided that further efforts should be made to bring the supply and demand of SPS-related technical cooperation into better balance. Development partners and beneficiaries were encouraged to address outstanding priority SPS needs on the basis of the areas identified in Annex II.

20. It was recommended that the results of STDF research should be taken into account in the design of future programmes of assistance, both SPS-specific and general. Beneficiaries were encouraged to use the research to raise the profile of SPS issues within the national administrations. The importance of bringing the private sector perspective into this national view was underlined. Development partners were encouraged to use the research to programme further assistance in this area.

21. It was agreed that the STDF would monitor the implementation of actions to address outstanding priority SPS needs. For this purpose, it was recommended that the Secretariat review progress in implementation after 12 months. The results of the review would then be reported to participants and national authorities.

22. It was decided that the STDF and participants should relate the outcomes of the research and workshop in future Aid for Trade events, in particular those held in the Asian region. It was also considered important that these conclusions should be relayed to by ADB to the relevant GMS sub-committees and by the WTO Secretariat to the ASEAN Secretariat.

23. For Cambodia and Lao PDR, an important avenue for implementation of outstanding priority SPS needs was identified as the IF and related national trust funds. It was considered essential that the conclusions of the event be adequately taken into account by the IF and associated local structures.

24. It was recalled that funding offered by STDF for the preparation of projects and implementation of projects was one possible option. The STDF Working Group was encouraged to give positive consideration to funding requests arising from Annex II.

25. The workshop took note of forthcoming research in the area of good practice in SPS-related technical cooperation. There was consensus that this research should inform further technical cooperation activities in the SPS area.³

³ For project documentation, please go to: http://www.standardsfacility.org/ASEAN_Subgroup.htm



Annex I

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Annex II : SPS needs for Cambodia, Lao PDR and Viet Nam

CAMBODIA

OUTSTANDING PRIORITY SPS ACTION AREAS

Title of action	Background	Specific details to be covered
<p>Develop a comprehensive SPS policy and action plan</p>	<p>The NSDP calls for the development of a comprehensive strategy for the agriculture sector. As part of this process, it is recommended that a comprehensive SPS policy be developed. The policy should be underpinned by an action plan based on cross-cutting and sectoral needs which takes into account the Government's poverty reduction and economic growth objectives. The action plans developed by the World Bank for Lao PDR and Viet Nam are a possible model in this respect</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Food hygiene management (GAP, GHP, GMP, HACCP and in Restaurants). - Advisory for food of agricultural products hygienic and food hygiene in restaurants.. - Organize and review (updated) of the SPS policy and action plan in order to achieve the food safety and food quality of agricultural products (can be used WB Model). - Implementation of SPS policy action plan. - Need for TA to support for all of the Activities in Organizing and reviewing of policies and action plans for the food safety of agricultural products.
<p>Strengthening the legislative framework for SPS management.</p>	<p>There is a continuing need to clearly identify roles and responsibilities of institutions involved in SPS management, mainly for those with potential overlapping mandates such as the Ministry of Commerce (MOC) and the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (MAFF), and within the MAFF,</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Set up the effectiveness of the legislative framework for SPS management system among the MAFF and related agencies, such as: FiA, DAHP, DAALI, DAI. And between MAFF and MOC. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Define role and responsibilities among stakeholders involved in SPS management. • Certify of agricultural products standard.



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Title of action	Background	Specific details to be covered
	<p>the Department of Animal Health and Protection (DAHP) and the Fisheries Administration (FiA). The institutional and legislative frameworks for fisheries, animal and plant health, need strengthening to include the necessary provisions for enforcement. Coordination among various institutions should be enhanced.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strengthening the capacity building of the technical staff and organization (such as equipment for the operation of food safety of agricultural products). - Facilitating the Inter-ministerial agreement on the delineation of role and responsibility of the institution involved in SPS- management(Extension of FAO-Project , CGP/RAS/207/NZE
<p>Enhance capacity for diagnosis and enforcement</p>	<p>There is a need to build overall capacity for diagnosis and enforcement for all areas of food safety, plant health and animal health. This refers to capacities for inspection and certification, surveillance and monitoring and risk analysis, among others, and includes facilities, equipment and human resources. Prior risk evaluations for all three areas are needed to identify needs and proper allocation of resources.</p>	<p>Activity 1: Strengthening Import/Export Inspection based on Risk Management Approach of food safety in agricultural products:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Develop strategic Risk Management plan and operation RM plan - Develop a National compliance management plan with risk to the objectives in relation to legal requirements to technical specifications or administrative rules for products. - Establish a Risk Management Units: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TORs • Identify HRM requirement • Develop information collection and reporting forms and systems. <p>Design and Develop an information storage system (MS Access)</p>



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Title of action	Background	Specific details to be covered
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Establish an analytical capability: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify resources and provide analysis training. • Develop out put template - Establish an awareness and training capability: Training needs analysis in all relevant areas of operational activity, train the trainers, Risk and compliance management training courses. <p>Activity 2: Strengthening the capability of Food Safety of Agricultural Products Testing Laboratory:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Equipment needed for upgrading of specific food testing (Pesticide residues, drugs, Aflatoxin, Heavy Metals, Food additive and adulterant, Food Microbiology, GMO of agri-food). - On job training for laboratory staffs based on implementation of ISO/IEC 17025 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Equipment Operation and Maintenance (PCR, HPLC, GC, LC). • Uncertainty Measurement • Method Validation - Training on detection of pathogens in food of agricultural products.



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Title of action	Background	Specific details to be covered
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Training on detection of Heavy Metals in agricultural products.. - Training on detection of Aflatoxin in peanuts. - Training on food agricultural products certification. - Sampling technique for Specific Food. - Establish quality control programs for food agricultural products testing: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participate in inter-laboratory testing programme • Develop QA guideline for the laboratory <p>Activity 3 : Develop and Update a Market Surveillance Programme and its implementation on the Food of Agricultural Products:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Risk assessment for food products - Components and procedures in relation consumer interest protection. <p>Activity 4 : Animal Health surveillance/monitoring/training</p> <p>Activity 5 :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Building capacity for diagnosis for pest and diseases of all



Title of action	Background	Specific details to be covered
		agricultural products. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Enhancing the enforcement for areas of food safety, plant health and animal health. - Strengthening the enforcement on the legislative framework for FiA and Animal and Plant health. - Food Safety of Agricultural products surveillance/monitoring/Training.
Promote greater awareness and information for senior and provincial government officials.	<p>This is necessary to mainstream SPS issues into sector development activities and to improve coordination and communication among central and decentralized institutions. Capacity of the SPS Enquiry Point to act as an interface between international partners and national institutions and to disseminate SPS information within the country to all stakeholders should be enhanced. Likewise, the National Codex Committee could be strengthened to act as a vehicle of continuous update of officials on international standards and to raise awareness of relevance of Codex work to the national economy by bringing industry's concerns onto the agenda of senior officials.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Strengthening the skill for operating the SPS Inquiry Point among the stakeholders : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop database management process. • Training on updating and maintaining the Department existing website. - Strengthening the National Codex Committee activities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Training on the operation of the NCC. • Raise awareness of relevance of Codex work to the national economy. - Funding the participation in the Codex Committees Meetings.



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Title of action	Background	Specific details to be covered
<p>Enhance awareness and skills of food producers and processors.</p>	<p>This could be implemented through training of trainers to design tailor-made curricula to enhance the skills of operators to achieve compliance with international standards in their particular area of operation. Strengthening of extension capacity and of the link between extensions and applied agronomic research could greatly benefit the farmers. Multiplying Farmer Field Schools, reinforcing producer associations and provincial chambers of agriculture are other possible ways to improve phytosanitary and animal health situations in the country</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Provide training on SPS skills of operation to agricultural producers/ food handlers /processors - Disseminate of SPS policies to public through workshop/seminar / publication: leaflet/posters and mass media. - Implementing and conducting of trainers to design tailor-made curricula to enhance the skills of operators to achieve the compliance with the International Standard. - Strengthening of extension capacity and network system of extension among stakeholders. - Improve of public awareness to producers through the multiplying method. - Training of trainer in AFS, GAP, QA, GMP, GHP, HACCP, ISO 22000 - Continuation of the pilot project in training some key food of agricultural and processor.
<p>Enhance awareness of consumers on food safety risks</p>	<p>This could be conducted through assisting relevant institutions to design food safety campaigns and to strengthen consumer association's capabilities to act as an intermediary</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Establish Network to relevance SPS-implemented agencies (Legal framework). - Improve existing facilities: Internet, Fax, Phone, website design and process data management in hard/soft - Training on SPS-Agreement - Workshop on consumer awareness on food safety and economic impact.



Standards and Trade Development Facility

Title of action	Background	Specific details to be covered
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Design detailed programme for food safety education to consumer. - Develop guideline for the establishment of consumer association.
Develop coordinated surveillance programme	Co-ordinated surveillance programmes should be developed for plant and animal pests and diseases and for food-borne disease and enhance capacity for diagnosis. This should include training on data collection and dissemination and on the use of data to develop science-based food control strategies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Agricultural products from farm to fork through strengthening the method. - Food borne disease surveillance/data collection. - Disseminate/training on strategies for preventing food-borne disease.
Standardizations and Conformity assessment	<p>There is a need to develop and to use as a rule and guidance to improve the quality and safety of production management system.</p> <p>To improve evidence and creditable testing and certification according to national and international requirements(ILAC/IAF)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Develop national standard, guideline and Code of Good Practice for food and food processing . - Accreditation of laboratories Capability for HACCP certification, Food products certification and ISO 22000 certification
Metrology	To support calibration of testing equipments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Establish calibration laboratories for Mass , Temperatures and Pressures.



LAO PDR

Outstanding Priority SPS Action Plan

Title of action	Background	Specific details to be covered	Indicative time frame
<p>Assistance in the accelerated drive for WTO membership</p>	<p>Information and training has been provided the WTO SPS agreement to senior officials in the Ministries of Industry and Commerce (MOIC), Agriculture and Forestry (MAF), Health (MOH) and the National Science and Technology Authority (NAST) in preparation for WTO accession. However, among middle rank managers and specialists in these ministries and in the provinces there is little awareness of the implications. It is recommended that a major in-country training event for middle-level management and specialists in MAF, MOH, NAST and provinces be provided on WTO accession. As part of this training, focused help should be given to make the SPS/TBT Enquiry Point operational.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Greater awareness (training /ws or TOT on WTO/SPS Agreement in the senior and middle -level management in MAF, MOH, NAST, Private sector and Province level. - Training SPS/TBT Enquiry Point and further TOT - Training the Notification procedure - Finalize the regulation of food law implementation - Study visit (discussion meeting) in Vietnam and Cambodia to exchange experience on SPS 	<p>2008-2009</p> <p>end 2008</p> <p>end 2008 end 2008</p> <p>2009</p>
<p>Efforts to control endemic animal diseases</p>	<p>In addition to the economic losses to animal productivity and market access, continued prevalence of disease creates difficulties implementing the GMS Cross-Border Transport Agreement, particularly for transit trade. It would appear appropriate thus that this issue be addressed in forthcoming support projects. Addressing the underlying disease</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Disease control is long term activities, nevertheless there were several assistance on this matter from different Donors such as: EU, ADB, FAO etc... In fact those assistances were focus mainly on the HPAI disease control and in the targeted areas only (not cover whole country and other infectious animal diseases). 	



Standards and Trade Development Facility

Title of action	Background	Specific details to be covered	Indicative time frame
	<p>situation will require sustained long-term investment and technical assistance programmes designed at a regional level. In this regard, the SEAFMD programme is a model deserves further study for possible broader application for other diseases.</p>	<p>Particular priority for Lao .PDR preferably for future should be focus on the following area:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Strengthening the disease surveillance and submission network for a whole country with the combination with the existing supported projects. - Other animal diseases need to be prioritized: Classical Swine Fever, FMD and Newcastle disease as pilot project 	
<p>Assistance to increase awareness about, and facilitate the implementation of relevant international standard, GAPs, GHPs and GMPs.</p>	<p>To complement the above support for WTO membership, assistance is also required to ensure that government departments, producers and the domestic private sector are knowledgeable about national, international and regional regulations and standards related to food safety and quality, and that the required institutional framework and human resources are in place to facilitate the effective application of good agricultural, hygiene and manufacturing practices.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Pilot of GAP project on the capacity building of selected crop (pre and post harvest) - Key local food industries fully comply with GMP requirements <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - GMP programs developed for selected food products such bottled drinking water, meat ball, pate .. - Training to processors on compliance with GMP program - Training to vendors on compliance with GHP practice in street vendors food - GMP guideline for the fish traditional processors : Som Pa, Som mou, .. 	<p>2009-2010</p> <p>2008-2012</p>
<p>Assistance in surveillance of food-borne hazards, pests and diseases.</p>	<p>A project is required that would help with the design and implementation of surveillance and data collection on the most important pests, diseases and food hazards, assist in the evaluation and sharing of data, in particular with trading partners. A second stage to such a project would focus on using the data to establish risk-based management systems for food safety, plant health and animal health</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Follow up the training of trainers of plant pests, animal diseases and food borne disease surveillance - Pilot project on Food borne disease focusing on several diseases 	<p>2008-2009</p> <p>2009-2012</p>



Title of action	Background	Specific details to be covered	Indicative time frame
<p>Assistance in training and development of academic/vocational training in the SPS area</p>	<p>risks</p> <p>Training of staff and specialists is crucial for building a viable SPS system. The current skilled labour shortage is also a constraint which reduces the absorptive capacity of the country for SPS technical cooperation. In part this constraint is caused by an absence of academic and vocational training opportunities in Lao PDR. Thus as part of a training programme for Laotian officials, consideration should be given to the development of academic and vocational training courses in the SPS area. This would help in delivering training opportunities which are in-country and o-the-job.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Developing technical training and procedure manual for implementing the ISPMs, and particularly those which have a direct impact on trade potential - Updating of University syllabi in University linked with Food safety management related scientific discipline and laboratory science 	<p>2009-2012</p>

Outstanding Regional

Priority SPS Action Areas

Title of action	Background	Specific details to be covered
Joint preparation of priority plant pest lists and lists of plant products with high, moderate and low risks in bilateral trade as the basis for border control measures		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Harmonizing and information sharing of the National Phytosanitary Database - Developing procedure manual for plant quarantine inspection at the entry/exit point, such as inspection technique and sampling technique of plant and plant product. - Training quarantine inspection
Joint cross-border programs for the containment and reduction of priority animal diseases		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Establish the joint program cross-border for the quarantine system
Exchange of information about major food safety risks		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Exchange of information on the regulation and rule related to food safety as well as contaminants and food borne diseases
Joint monitoring programs on the use of agrochemicals		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Exchanging the information of banned pesticide and registration certification status of agrochemical
Developing and implementing agreed SPS border procedures for GMS		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Developing bilateral MOU or multilateral MOU where is needed
Assessment of laboratory and other diagnostic facilities in the region,	Assessment should include consideration of affordability for small countries and possible designation of sub-regional centers for expensive tests and highly specialized tasks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Establish the reference laboratory between CLV including microbiology, chemical, pesticide residue, drug residue plant diseases and animal diseases



VIET NAM

OUTSTANDING PRIORITY SPS ACTION AREAS

Title of action	Background	Specific details to be covered	Indicative time frame
<p>Strengthening institutional and legislative frameworks</p>	<p>Strengthening the institutional and legislative frameworks for food safety and animal and plant health that will include clear definition of responsibilities and necessary provisions for enforcement</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evaluation and improvement of institutional frameworks for food safety (domestic consumption and exports-imports) • Public-Private dialogue in law making process, and information dissemination aftermath <p>Human resource development (for law making personnel) for food law, animal health law and plant health law</p>	<p>Immediate</p>
<p>Promoting greater awareness of SPS issues for public health, agricultural health and trade performance</p>	<p>Among policymakers in the central government to support the SPS system, both financially and through an appropriate risk-based regulatory framework;</p> <p>Among implementing offices at provincial and district levels to more effectively implement and enforce safety measures; and</p> <p>Among food producers and processors, food handlers and consumers through knowledge and application of hygienic and safe practices.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Small producers/sellers support programs (SPS) • Dialogue between wholesalers, retailers and consumers • Communication activities and workshops for policy makers, training for lab staff, managers at different levels • Communication-information campaigns for producers and consumers 	<p>Immediate</p>



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Title of action	Background	Specific details to be covered	Indicative time frame
Intensifying information and educational programmes	Intensifying information and educational programmes on good practices in food production, processing and preparation for farmers, processors and consumers and related enforcement actions by regulatory authorities;	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Educational programs on IPM, GAP, GAHP, HACCP, GMP, SSOP • Public information: posters, TV, radio... • Onjob training for farmers Training at high schools and universities	Immediate
Designing and implementing more effective risk-based monitoring and control systems	Designing and implementing more effective risk-based monitoring and control systems for agro-chemicals, surveillance and reporting of pest and diseases	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Comprehensive monitoring and control system <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inspection and supervising for producers on use of agro-chemicals • Monitoring program on residue and pathogen • Certification program 	Immediate
Enhancing overall SPS capacity for diagnosis and enforcement.	Capacity includes inspection and certification, surveillance and monitoring and risk analysis. Assistance should address needs related to facilities, equipment and human resources based on an evaluation to identify priority needs.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regional training • Lab equipment • National lab network • Facilities for border checking points • Free disease zones from FMD, CSF, HPAI • Pest free areas from fruit flies 	Immediate



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Title of action	Background	Specific details to be covered	Indicative time frame
Market Access		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Risk analysis • MRAs, recognition of equivalency Participation in CODEX, OIE, IPPC and related meetings	Immediate
SPS for business		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SPS forum for business community A system of interrelated activities to boost the SPS issues among the business community	Immediate
VIET GAP project		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strengthening and implementation of VIET GAP project 	



Annex III: SPS requirements of Myanmar

- Quality control and standardization of horticulture products
- Post harvest biology and technology of perishable crops
- Training on survey of organic agricultural produces
- Handling and storage of horticultural crops, roots and tubers
- Training course on gas chromatography
- Integrated pest management on fruits and vegetables
- Analysis of residual agricultural chemicals
- Mould infestation and mycotoxins in foods
- Training course on added-value technology in agricultural products
- Training on standardizing test methods for residues of pesticides and food additives in crops and food commodities