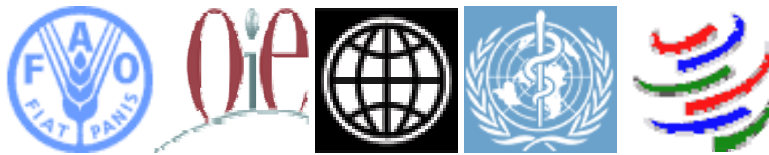


**MEDIUM TERM STRATEGY OF THE
STANDARDS AND TRADE DEVELOPMENT FACILITY**

(2007-2011)

A joint initiative of the Food and Agriculture Organization, the World
Organization for Animal Health, the World Bank, the World Health
Organization and the World Trade Organization



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1. On 8 June 2006, the Standards and Trade Development Facility (STDF) Policy Committee agreed to establish a Task Force charged with making recommendations on strategic issues relevant to the medium term operation of the STDF. Membership of the Task Force, which is chaired by the United Kingdom, includes representatives of all STDF partners, as well as donors contributing funds to the STDF.¹ Following its terms of reference (contained in document STDF 149) and with the assistance of the STDF Secretariat, the Task Force has drafted two documents, i.e. a Medium Term Strategy (contained in document STDF 154) accompanied by a revised set of Operational Rules (contained in document STDF 139). These documents are complemented by an STDF operating plan for 2007 prepared by the STDF Secretary (STDF 163).

Medium Term Strategy

2. The Medium Term Strategy will run from 2007-2011 and is designed to move the STDF onto more stable foundations. The Strategy puts much greater emphasis on information sharing and co-ordination in the supply and receipt of SPS-related technical co-operation. This objective will be achieved through close contact with donors and developing countries, improved reporting to the WTO/OECD Trade Capacity Building Database and research on the experience of both donors and beneficiaries in SPS-related capacity building. Lessons learnt will particularly assist donors to capture good practices and avoid duplication with past, present or planned activities. It will also assist beneficiaries in the formulation of technical co-operation requests.

3. Greater use will be made of project preparation grants (PPGs) in future STDF programme development as a means to mobilize funds both from within the STDF and from the wider donor community. PPGs continue to be a key mechanism to meet the target to devote 40 per cent of Facility resources to Least Developed Countries (LDCs) and other Low Income Economies (OLIEs) – a target which has been retained for both PPGs and projects. PPGs will be used to ensure synergy with other on-going initiatives, such as the identification of SPS needs under the Integrated Framework for Trade-Related Technical Assistance to Least Developed Countries (IF), and assist in conducting surveys of national capacity in the SPS area, for instance through the use of capacity evaluation tools. Greater reliance will be placed on the use of PPGs to provide a basis for project interventions. A further aspect to improved donor co-ordination is that projects arising from STDF funded PPGs may be subsequently funded by donors or other on-going assistance programmes.

4. The STDF will continue to fund projects, but eligibility criteria have been tightened and will be more rigorously applied, in particular by the Secretariat at the initial review stage. Technical co-operation projects should be innovative, sustainable, preventative and replicable; address gaps in SPS information and training materials; or aim to improve co-ordination among SPS technical co-operation providers. Furthermore, linkages with other programmes, notably the IF, will be further strengthened. Project implementation and oversight will also require greater input from STDF partners and third parties.

5. To fulfil the aims of the STDF and implement the work programme, predictable and sustained funding over the Medium Term Strategy implementation period (2007-2011) is needed,

¹ STDF partners are the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), World Organization for Animal Health (OIE), World Health Organization (WHO), World Bank and World Trade Organization (WTO). Participating donors include Canada, Denmark, France, Netherlands, Sweden, United Kingdom and United States. The European Communities and Australia also participated as observers.

ideally in the form of multi-annual commitments. To implement the strategy, a target level of annual funding of US\$5 million has been established by the Policy Committee.

Operational Rules

6. The STDF Business Plan, contained in document G/SPS/GEN/523, has served its purpose in establishing the foundations for the STDF but it does not unambiguously set out operational rules for the STDF. Additionally, the Task Force was charged with making recommendations on the establishment of criteria for membership of and observer status in the STDF. To address these and other operational issues, the Task Force has drafted a revised set of Operational Rules on the basis of the current Business Plan.

7. Membership of the STDF includes the STDF partners, donors contributing funds to the STDF as well as developing countries (in accordance with a rotation mechanism). To facilitate decision-making, a rotation mechanism will also apply for donor representation in the Policy Committee. Membership of the Working Group will continue to include participation of the Secretariats of the Codex Alimentarius Commission (CAC) and the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC). Membership of the Working Group may be extended to participation of other relevant organizations on the basis of a unanimous decision of the Policy Committee.

8. Criteria have also been established for observer status in the STDF. Organizations with SPS expertise or implementing SPS-related technical cooperation may participate as observers in meetings of the Working Group. Requests for participation will be considered by the Chairman of the Working Group in consultation with the STDF Secretary on the basis of the SPS-related activities of the organization and its willingness to share information on its activities. To facilitate reporting, those organizations implementing or supervising STDF projects shall automatically be granted observer status for the duration of these projects.

9. The Operational Rules further clarify the tasks and responsibilities of the different actors involved, in particular in relation to grant allocation and the monitoring and supervision of projects. Eligibility criteria are more clearly and precisely formulated. To give better guidance to applicants and improve the overall quality of proposals submitted to the STDF for funding, the Task Force recommends that the STDF Secretariat draft a separate guidance document for potential applicants based on the revised Operational Rules. This document will be prepared for the first STDF Working Group meeting of 2007.

I. OVERVIEW OF THE FACILITY

Aims of the Standards and Trade Development Facility (STDF)

1. The aims of the STDF are:
 - to assist developing countries enhance their expertise and capacity to analyze and to implement international sanitary and phytosanitary (SPS) standards, so improving their human, animal and plant health situation, and thus ability to gain and maintain market access; and
 - to act as a vehicle for co-ordination among technical co-operation providers, the mobilization of funds, the exchange of experience and the dissemination of good practice in relation to the provision and receipt of SPS-related technical co-operation.
2. In addition to facilitating international trade, SPS capacity building can result in improved human and agricultural health conditions for local markets and so favour economic and social development. The STDF is distinct from and complementary to other initiatives to facilitate the participation of developing countries in SPS standard-setting processes.

What is the STDF?

3. The STDF is both a co-ordinating and a financing mechanism. As a co-ordinating mechanism, the STDF acts as a forum for information sharing on past, present and planned SPS-related technical co-operation activities. Central to the STDF's co-ordination role is reporting on technical co-operation provided or planned, the sharing of project and programme implementation experience and the dissemination of good practice in relation to both the provision and receipt of SPS-related technical co-operation. A further component of STDF's co-ordination function is to ensure that projects and other proposed initiatives do not duplicate past, present or planned technical co-operation activities.²
4. Grant financing is available for projects from private and public organizations in developing countries seeking to comply with international SPS standards and hence gain or maintain market access. Applicants are required to contribute to the cost of project implementation. Project preparation grants are available for project development and aim to bridge the gap between the identification of needs (through such initiatives as the Integrated Framework) and their articulation into projects. Applications are particularly encouraged from organizations in Least Developed Countries (LDCs) or Other Low Income Economies (OLIEs) and/or which address SPS compliance issues at a regional level.³

Value added by the STDF

5. The STDF will act as a reference point for good practice in the provision of SPS-related technical cooperation and aims to develop into a centre of excellence. It is designed to strengthen current and future co-operation efforts. The STDF will provide information on good practice that

² As recommended by the OECD Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness.

³ A target has been established to allocate at least 40 per cent of STDF project funds to LDCs and OLIEs.

can be drawn upon by potential donors and recipients and disseminate implementation lessons from recent technical co-operation efforts so furthering co-operation and collaboration among donors.

6. The partners in the STDF are singularly qualified to assist developing countries in dealing with relevant international standards, guidelines and recommendations for food safety, plant and animal health. The STDF brings together the standard setting organizations designated by the WTO Agreement on the Application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures (SPS Agreement) as reference bodies in the area of food safety (Codex Alimentarius Commission) and plant health (International Plant Protection Convention or IPPC), either in their own right or through the involvement of their parent organizations, i.e. the World Health Organization (WHO) and the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), as well as in the area of animal health and zoonoses (World Organization for Animal Health or OIE). The World Bank contributes analytical backing and a development perspective, while involvement of the World Trade Organization (WTO) brings a "trade rules perspective" to the STDF. The STDF is designed to benefit from the experience and skills that each partner brings to the Facility.

7. Furthermore, through the involvement of the WTO Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures (SPS Committee), which brings together Geneva-based delegates and national experts from the 150 Members of the WTO, the STDF has a natural constituency from which to draw support (analytical and financial) and project proposals (over 80 per cent of the WTO Members are developing countries).

8. The STDF does not replace or compete with either the standard setting work of OIE, IPPC and Codex or the regular technical cooperation activities of STDF partners and participating donors. STDF reinforces and complements these activities by bringing the collective expertise of the five partners, donors and recipients together in one facility. The STDF is distinct from and complementary to other initiatives aimed at fostering increased participation by developing countries in the standard setting process such as the Codex Trust Fund and the IPPC Trust Fund.⁴ The STDF does not cover the costs of participation in standard setting activities, but the expertise and capacity gained under the STDF will enhance the ability of developing country participants to effectively contribute to the process.

9. The STDF seeks to build on the work of bilateral, regional and multilateral donors by:
- providing a mechanism for co-ordination and information sharing on past, present and planned activities among technical co-operation providers, the exchange of experience and the dissemination of good practice;
 - addressing underlying issues of SPS capacity building in beneficiary countries (in particular in LDCs or OLIEs or on a regional basis), ideally through preventative, innovative and/or demonstration projects which may be replicated by other donors; and
 - supporting collaborative projects by STDF partners which aim *inter alia* to address gaps in SPS information or training materials or which aim to improve co-ordination among SPS technical co-operation providers.

⁴ See <http://www.who.int/foodsafety/codex/trustfund/en/> for further information on the Codex Trust Fund and <http://www.ippc.int> for further information on the IPPC Trust Fund.

- co-operating with STDF partners, donors and recipients in the elaboration of comprehensive, sectoral (e.g. food safety, animal or plant health specific) or product-based national strategies.

Background to the STDF

10. The STDF grew out of a joint communiqué issued by the Heads of FAO, OIE, World Bank, WHO and WTO at the Doha Ministerial Conference in November 2001.⁵ In the communiqué, the five organizations agreed to jointly explore new technical and financial mechanisms for coordination and resource mobilization and to build alliances between standard setting bodies and the implementing and financing agencies so as to ensure the most effective use of technical and financial resources.

11. The five organizations formally established the STDF in August 2002 as a partnership and a Trust Fund with three years of start-up financing from the World Bank and WTO.⁶ On 10 September 2004, the partners formally adopted a Business Plan for the STDF.⁷ The plan explained the organization and operation of the Facility, including information on project eligibility criteria, project funding possibilities and the project review process. In 2005, membership of the STDF was expanded to include donors and representatives of developing country beneficiaries. The STDF is funded through voluntary contributions to the Trust Fund established under the financial regulations and rules of WTO.

12. An independent evaluation of the operation of the Facility was completed in December 2005. The evaluation concluded that:

- the STDF had proven successful in attracting resources and approving projects, but faced challenges in securing sustained donor financing;
- it had actively exploited synergies with other programmes (notably the Integrated Framework);
- it had exceeded the target to devote 40 per cent of Facility resources to projects in LDCs or OLIEs; and
- the STDF Secretariat needed to be strengthened given the very wide range of roles undertaken and to reconsider its project management functions.

13. To respond to conclusions of the evaluation, a Task Force was established by the STDF Policy Committee at its meeting on 8 June 2006. The Task Force was charged with reporting on the establishment of a medium term strategy including recommendations on concomitant multi-annual donor funding and appropriate management arrangements – notably the tasks and responsibilities of partners and the STDF Secretariat. The Task Force was also charged with establishing criteria for membership of and observer status in the STDF.

⁵ WT/MIN(01)/ST/97.

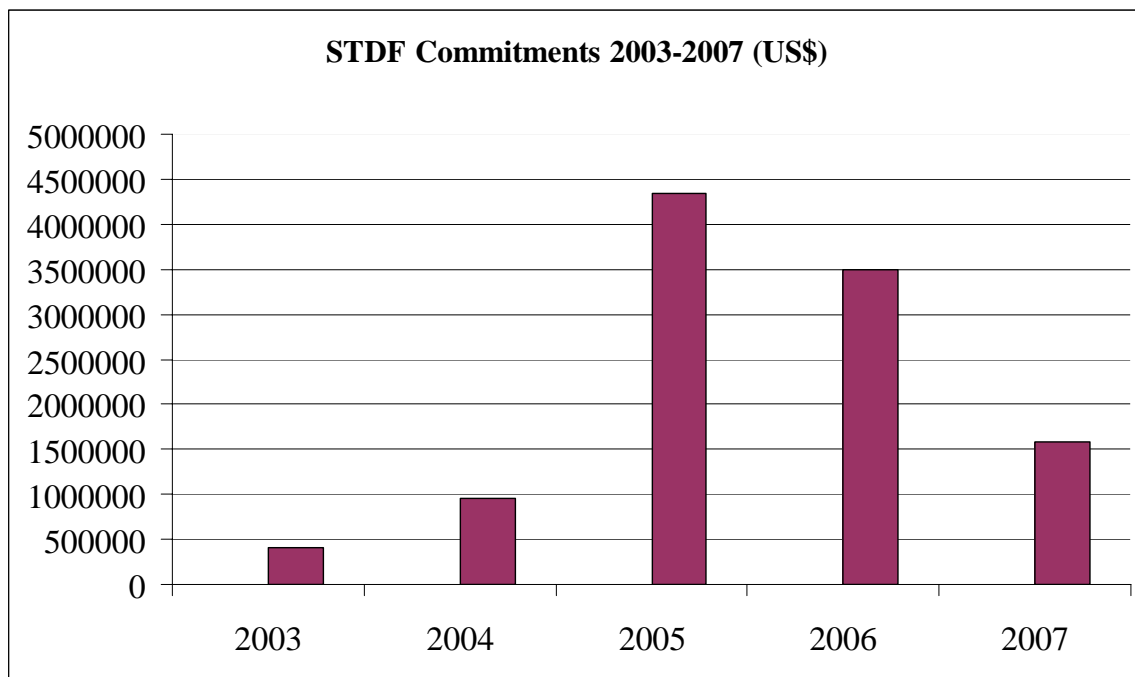
⁶ Funding of US\$300,000 per annum for a maximum three years ending in June 2005 from the Development Grant Facility was approved by the Board of Directors of the World Bank on 27 June 2002. The WTO accepted to serve as the executing institution on 27 August 2002 and committed financial resources (CHF100,000 in 2003 and 2004 rising to CHF225,000 in 2005 and 2006) to the STDF from the Doha Development Agenda Global Trust Fund.

⁷ G/SPS/GEN/523.

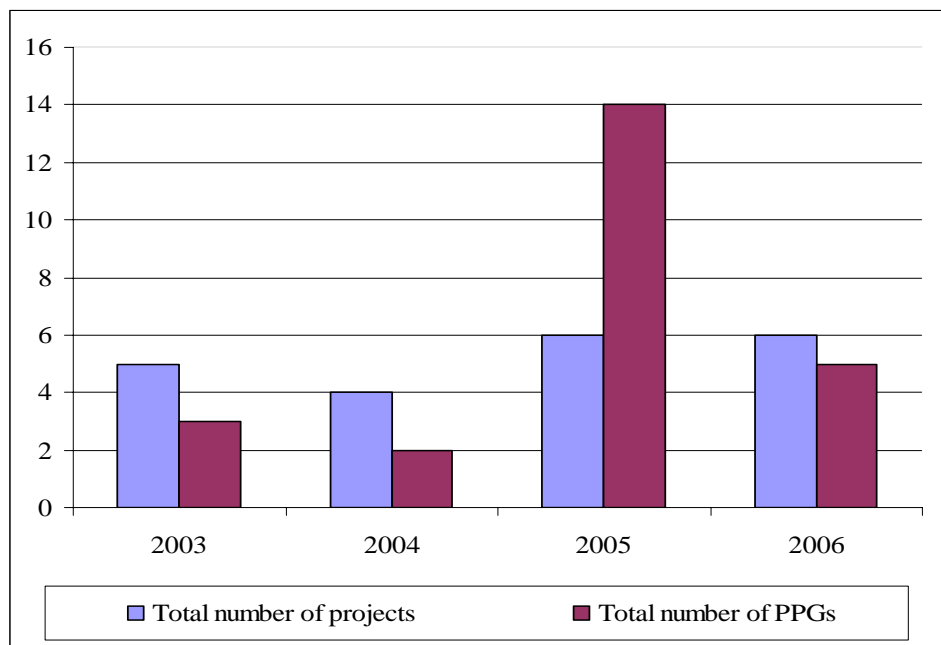
II. OVERVIEW OF CURRENT OPERATIONS

14. Following adoption of the Business Plan in September 2004, contributions complementing the original seed funding from the World Bank and WTO have been received from donors. Of these contributions, those from Germany, the Netherlands and Sweden were formally multi-annual contributions. Denmark, the United Kingdom and the United States have made several single year contributions. A further five donors (Australia, Canada, the European Commission, France and Italy) have made single year contributions. The STDF is facing funding constraints with insufficient resources to implement all currently approved projects. One objective in revising the STDF operating plan is to ensure adequate future resources and their optimal utilization.

Figure 1: Donor funding of the STDF



15. A total of 23 projects and 22 project preparation grants had been approved for STDF funding at the end of November 2006. At that time, 7 projects had been completed, 11 were being implemented and 6 were awaiting contracting. Of the project preparation grants, 10 had been completed, 4 were nearing completion and 8 were awaiting implementation.

Figure 2: Projects and project preparation grants funded by the STDF

16. The Business Plan provided three different operating scenarios for the STDF. The operating scenarios corresponded to funding levels of US\$3 million (low case), US\$5 million (medium case) and US\$7 million (high case). In 2005, funding levels were between the low and medium case scenarios. For the medium term strategy, the Policy Committee has established a target annual funding level of US\$5 million.

III. MEDIUM TERM STRATEGY

17. The medium term strategy is designed to move the STDF from its current collection of projects into a programme, with more clearly defined procedures for funding and a much greater emphasis on co-ordination and the identification and dissemination of good practice in the provision of SPS-related technical co-operation. It also aims to address constraints faced by the STDF Secretariat in the delivery of this programme. The medium term strategy will run from 2007-2011 and emphasises the following areas:

(i) ***Re-inforcing the STDF's co-ordination function***

18. The STDF has been designed to:

- complement current and future technical co-operation efforts by multilateral, regional and bilateral donors;
- draw upon, apply and disseminate important implementation lessons from recent technical co-operation efforts in the SPS area; and
- achieve additional improvements in the quality of technical co-operation work through deeper collaboration.

19. Sharing information on past, present and planned technical cooperation activities will be central to the work of the STDF. To ensure more complete reporting, the STDF Secretariat will work with bilateral, regional and multilateral donors to ensure that their activities are reported to the WTO/OECD Trade Capacity Building Database.⁸ On the basis of data entered, overviews of the provision of SPS-related technical co-operation will be circulated to the SPS Committee and other fora.⁹

20. The database is a useful tool to determine where co-operation may have previously been provided. The quantitative and qualitative elements of this information will help improve national strategies (for example the World Bank's national action plans on SPS or the use of capacity evaluation tools). Such information could also guide funding decisions as technical cooperation should not duplicate past, present or planned activities, but instead should build on the lessons learnt from previous projects.

21. In addition to the quantitative reporting on SPS activities, the STDF Secretariat will also collect qualitative information from partners and donors - for example training materials, national or regional SPS action plans and experiences in the implementation of projects from both donors and beneficiaries.

22. The STDF Secretariat, in collaboration with partners and donors, will also examine the effectiveness of SPS-related technical co-operation. Research will be conducted on experience in the request and offer, design and receipt, and implementation of SPS-related technical cooperation on the part of both beneficiaries and donors. To facilitate this research, a series of regional consultations between donors and beneficiaries are planned. Such consultations would also aim to identify gaps in the provision of SPS-related technical co-operation from which projects could be designed.

23. The STDF aims to act as a reference point for good practice in the provision of SPS-related technical co-operation. A central element of the move from a collection of projects to a programme is learning from the experience of implementation of projects, both positive and negative. Key responsibilities of the STDF Secretariat will include:

- Reporting on the experience gained from the implementation of projects and regional consultations;
- Disseminating lessons learnt and good practice to the STDF Working Group and Policy Committee as well as the SPS Committee and other fora, in particular by developing manuals, videos, etc; and
- Updating the STDF website (and where appropriate the websites of STDF partners) to include project documents and related training materials.

⁸ The STDF database (<http://stdfdb.wto.org/>) improved the specificity of reporting on SPS related co-operation and improved entries for partner activities, but comparison of submissions by Members to the SPS Committee on technical co-operation activities with their entries in the WTO/OECD Trade Capacity Building Database highlighted a far more serious problem of under-reporting. The focus is now on ensuring full reporting on the WTO/OECD Trade Capacity Building Database. Additional entries are being made on the database to report more fully the SPS activities of donors and partners.

⁹ A first analysis of SPS-related technical co-operation reported in the database can be found in document G/SPS/GEN/726.

24. The Secretariat will assist the STDF Working Group take these lessons into account when considering new funding applications for projects and PPGs and assist donors to ensure good practice in their own programmes.

(ii) *Building on linkages established with other programmes*

25. The STDF target to devote 40 per cent of Facility project grant resources to LDCs and OLIEs will be retained. To achieve this target, the STDF Secretariat will continue to build synergies with other technical co-operation trust funds managed by the WTO which aim to mainstream trade into development policy, notably the Integrated Framework.¹⁰

26. The STDF Secretariat will liaise closely with colleagues in the Integrated Framework Executive Secretariat to assist in the identification of SPS needs during the elaboration of national Diagnostic Trade Integration Studies (DTIS). The STDF Secretariat will provide recommendations on project preparation grant proposals and projects which address specific SPS policy and technical co-operation actions identified in the DTIS matrices. For specific SPS actions identified in the action matrices of IF countries, organizations with expertise in SPS-related co-operation, or the partner organization with technical competence in the area concerned (i.e. food safety, animal or plant health) will be invited to assist in the preparation of an application for a project preparation grant. In this way, the STDF will continue to bridge the gap between the identification of SPS needs and their realization.

27. The STDF will build synergies with other technical co-operation programmes either of a general nature, such as the Aid for Trade Initiative¹¹ or the Joint Integrated Technical Assistance Program (JITAP)¹², or of a more specific SPS nature, such as interventions to tackle plant pests, animal diseases such as avian influenza or other major zoonotic diseases.

(iii) *Greater use of project preparation grants*

28. Project preparation grants (PPGs) are a key mechanism for future STDF programme development as they help overcome constraints faced by developing countries in the articulation of their needs. To date, a total of 22 PPGs have been commissioned.

29. Project preparation grants are also a mechanism for ensuring synergy with other on-going initiatives. For example, they can support project development for priority actions in the SPS area which have been identified in DTIS reviews conducted under the IF. Thus, PPGs will

¹⁰ The Integrated Framework for Trade-Related Technical Assistance to LDCs (IF) is a multi-agency, multi-donor program that assists LDCs to expand their participation in the global economy whereby enhancing their economic growth and poverty reduction strategies. As part of the IF process, Diagnostic Trade Integration Studies (DTIS) are completed in LDCs. These studies include policy and technical co-operation matrices which list measures necessary to mainstream trade into national development plans. Within the SPS area, these matrices identify a number of policy and technical co-operation actions which should be taken. The participating agencies are IMF, ITC, UNCTAD, UNDP, World Bank and the WTO. See <http://www.integratedframework.org/> for further information on the Integrated Framework.

¹¹ See http://www.wto.org/english/tratop_e/dda_e/aid4trade_e.htm for further information on the Aid for Trade Initiative. The recommendations of the Task Force on Aid for Trade are contained in document WT/AFT/1.

¹² See <http://www.jitap.org/> for more information on JITAP.

continue to bridge the gap between the identification of SPS needs and their articulation in projects.¹³

30. In addition, PPGs have been used to survey national capacity in the SPS area. These national surveys of capacity and needs can be specific surveys of the animal, plant or food safety areas or designed to build over-arching national strategies in bio-security.¹⁴ The use of such tools can provide a foundation for the development of donor strategies and provide a basis on which STDF projects can be established.

31. The main criterion in awarding preparation grants is the likelihood that the project developed may receive funding. Final project funding may be provided by the STDF or from another funding source, e.g. a bilateral donor. Greater reliance will be placed on the use of PPGs to provide a basis for donor interventions and as a vehicle for mobilizing funds for projects developed by the STDF.

(iv) Continued grant financing for projects

32. The STDF will continue to fund technical cooperation activities which:

- address underlying issues of SPS capacity building in beneficiary countries (in particular in LDCs or OLIEs, or on a regional basis), ideally through innovative, preventative and / or pilot projects which may be replicated by other donors; and
- which aim to address gaps in SPS information, training materials or which aim to improve co-ordination among SPS technical co-operation providers through collaborative projects.

33. Greater concentration will be given to ensure that eligibility criteria are clear and precise for applicants and that funding applications reflect the strategic objectives of the Facility.¹⁵ In addition, the Secretariat will play a greater role in the preliminary review of projects. This will be accompanied by greater input from partners in scrutiny of the technical content of projects before they reach the STDF Working Group. Furthermore, each project should include an evaluation plan.

34. The STDF will continue to provide grant financing up to normally a maximum of US\$600,000 for project implementation. No minimum limit applies on the size of the projects funded, although projects will preferably be in the range of US\$150,000 and US\$600,000. Beneficiaries will continue to be required to meet part of the cost of the implementation of projects either through financial or in-kind contributions. Applications are particularly encouraged from organizations in LDCs and OLIEs, or for projects which tackle SPS issues through a regional approach.

35. The operational rules accompanying the medium term strategy provide for a more clearly defined role for partners and third parties with regard to the implementation of projects, and in particular the oversight of projects within the scope of their mandates. The partners are singularly

¹³ Nine of the 22 project preparation grants commissioned by November 2006 were based on needs identified in IF national DTIS.

¹⁴ Capacity evaluation tools in the areas of animal health, food safety, plant health and bio-security may be applied with STDF funding.

¹⁵ This strategy is accompanied by updated operational rules for the STDF in document STDF 139.

qualified to assist developing countries in dealing with relevant international standards, guidelines and recommendations for food safety, animal and plant health.

(v) *Strengthening the STDF Secretariat*

36. To implement this programme, the STDF Secretariat will need to be strengthened, particularly in relation to the enhanced focus on dissemination and co-ordination of SPS-related technical co-operation. The table below provides an overview of the Secretariat's tasks and activities.

37. Currently, the STDF Secretariat is staffed by two full-time and one half-time professional. To implement this strategy, progressive expansion to a core Secretariat team of six persons is estimated as necessary. The team would comprise five professional staff and one administrator. Employment of staff would be according to WTO staffing and recruitment procedures and staff would be bound by WTO rules and personnel policies. Employment of additional staff would be incremental, with regular reviews by the STDF Working Group as staff numbers increase to reassess the need for additional people. This assessment would be based on an evaluation of the success of the STDF in meeting its mandate of coordination, advice, facilitation and project funding, and in progressing from its current collection of projects into a programme.

Table 1: Overview of Secretariat tasks and activities

Task	Activities
Co-ordination	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintenance of close contacts with multilateral, regional and bilateral SPS-related co-operation programmes; • Information collection on technical co-operation activities of bilateral, regional and multilateral donors and developing countries and updating the joint WTO/OECD Trade Capacity Building Database on technical co-operation with respect to SPS activities; • Annual reporting on SPS-related technical co-operation flows; • Organization of regional consultations between donors, beneficiaries and regional organizations on technical co-operation priorities and funding mechanisms and commissioning of research on SPS-related aid effectiveness; and • Dissemination through the SPS Committee, OECD Development Assistance Committee and other relevant fora.

Task	Activities
Advice	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Analysis of information collected including research commissioned to identify good practice in the provision and receipt of SPS-related technical co-operation; • Development of a compendium on funding programmes for SPS related technical co-operation; • Provision of tools to donors and beneficiaries on the evaluation of technical co-operation needs and information on good practice in the delivery of technical co-operation.
Facilitation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Funding project preparation grants to survey SPS technical co-operation needs and develop indicative project terms of reference; • Matching of SPS requests with funding sources; • Exploiting synergies with other funding mechanisms or initiatives, e.g. Integrated Framework, Aid For Trade, JITAP, etc.
Project funding	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development of capacity evaluation and planning tools, including the need for and implications of international standards and their application; • Capacity building for public and private organizations, notably related to market access; and • Information sharing activities on international standards and implementation strategies at national level.

Table 2: Overview of Secretariat staffing needs and related costs

Source of funding	Title and Responsibilities
WTO regular budget	STDF Secretary. Overall programme oversight and day to day management, co-ordination of STDF work with SPS Committee and WTO technical co-operation activities.
STDF	Economic Affairs Officer. Co-ordination activities, including contact with donors, organization of regional consultations (and commissioning of related research), strategy development, on-site visits, organization and dissemination of reporting templates and collation of resultant information, co-operation with other funding initiatives e.g. IF or Aid for Trade, development and implementation of marketing strategy, collection of training materials, update of STDF website, update documents for the SPS Committee.
STDF	Economic Affairs Officer. Scrutiny of funding applications, project preparation grant development and implementation, project implementation oversight, including contracting projects, agreeing project terms of reference, verifying project implementation, collection of training materials, update of STDF website, update documents for the SPS Committee.
STDF	Junior Economic Affairs Officer. Co-ordination of activities with the STDF, IF and Aid for Trade, in particular with the DTIS process and follow-up project preparation grants and projects
STDF	Junior Economic Affairs Officer. Scrutiny of funding applications, organization of regional consultations, maintenance of contacts with donors, compilation and update of WTO/OECD Trade Capacity Building Database, technical co-operation compendium, project and project preparation grant contracting, assistance with collection of training materials, update of STDF website, update documents for the SPS Committee
STDF	Administrative assistant. Administrative support to the work of the Secretariat.
	5 staff funded directly from the STDF

38. Further to additional staffing costs, other costs would be charged directly to the STDF in relation to implementation of the STDF programme as outlined in Table 1. These costs are presented in Table 3.

Table 3: Other budgetary items to be charged directly to the STDF

Expense	Nature of Expense
Donor meetings	Travel to meet with donors and recipients active in the SPS area.
Regional technical co-operation consultations	Regional technical co-operation consultations (2 per year including 10 countries and four experts per country) and
Research on technical co-operation effectiveness	Contracting of research on SPS implementation for discussion at regional technical consultations
Costs related to maintenance of the WTO/OECD Trade Capacity Building Database	Additional data uploading and programming requirements to ensure that SPS-related technical co-operation is properly reported on the WTO/OECD Trade Capacity Building Database

(vi) Secure sustained funding

39. The STDF is currently unable to implement projects approved by the STDF Working Group. Demand for funding has outstripped the availability of funds in the Facility. Furthermore, the demand for project funding shows no sign of abating.

40. A total of 11 donors have contributed funds to the STDF.¹⁶ Of these 11 donors, four have entered into formal multi-annual funding commitments. Two other donors have renewed in 2006 contributions first made in 2005. Figure 1 in paragraph 14 illustrates the funding situation for the STDF in November 2006.

41. To fulfil the aims of the STDF and implement the work programme set out above, there is a fundamental need for predictable and sustainable funding over the medium term strategy implementation period (2007-11), ideally in the form of multi-annual commitments. To implement the Medium Term Strategy, a target level of annual funding of US\$5 million is required. At present, the Facility is approximately \$3.5 million short of achieving this target in 2007.

¹⁶ This total does not include contributions from the World Bank and the WTO.