The Trade Standards Practitioners Network (TSPN) 2005 - 2010

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Standards and Trade Development Facility (STDF) - Working Group

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TSPN is a multi-stakeholder forum of industrialised and developing countries:

- Multilateral organisations
- Development community
- Business
- Non-governmental organisations
- Research institutes
- Private standard setters and certifiers

Members: gtz, FAO, ISO
Our Mission is

to better enable developing countries
to take advantage of
and participate more effectively
in standard-based markets.

TSPN provides a platform for policy research, knowledge management and exchange.
Objectives:

• to enable decision-makers in developing countries to address private standards in a strategic way;

• to address potential negative impacts of private standards while maximising the benefits they can provide;

• to improve the impact of technical assistance interventions by promoting “good practices” along the value chains;

• to encourage public-private partnerships for developing countries to effectively respond to trade related standards.
The scope of TSPN:

Private standards setters focus on the harmonisation of procedures for implementation and monitoring.

"Private" standards for product differentiation

Food Quality / SPS

mandatory: technical regulations / SPS measures
voluntary: international standards, e.g. ISO, FAO-WHO-OIE

The public standard sector focuses on the harmonisation of regulations and standards.
The TSPN acts through its members

Stakeholders:
- Capacity building
- Informed decision making

Member activities:
- Implementation
- Consulting
- Projects
- Training
- Conferences

Steering Committee
Secretariat
funded by World Bank + BMZ;
based at GTZ (Eschborn)

Associate Members → Core Members

Technical Working Groups
- I
- II
- ...

...
Areas of activity:

• Knowledge sharing and dissemination;
• Policy dialogue, creating awareness for private standards and facilitation of informed decision-making;
• Joint research and development of assessment tools;
• Standards data base and learning platform;
• Web site and newsletter.
Trade Standards Practitioners Network

TSPN Tools along the implementation chain

Working Group I
Decision-making guide

Working Group II
Good practice in addressing compliance challenges

Indicators / qualitative measuring instruments

Measuring impact

TSPN members working on impact assessment:
e.g. ISEAL, SCI
STDF and TSPN overlap:

**What's the point?**

"While public regulations and private standards are frequently seen as distinct entities, a value chain perspective highlights the interaction between public and private entities in the governance of agri-food systems."


"In many cases it can be difficult to disentangle the requirements of specific public regulations or private standards, and indeed often these are promulgated and evolve to one another."

STDF and TSPN - possible synergies?

- Similar overall targets (orientation towards developing countries, trade promotion ...);
- Common topics such as "informed decision-making", "co-regulation", "impact monitoring"; "enabling environment for standards and regulations";
- Joint work on methodologies and validation of tools;
- Joint dissemination of information that could optimise audience reach.