

Global Standards, Local Impact: Unlocking Markets through Science and Innovation

STDF/SSAFE Side Event
CAC-48, FAO, Rome

13 November 2025

FIND OUT MORE



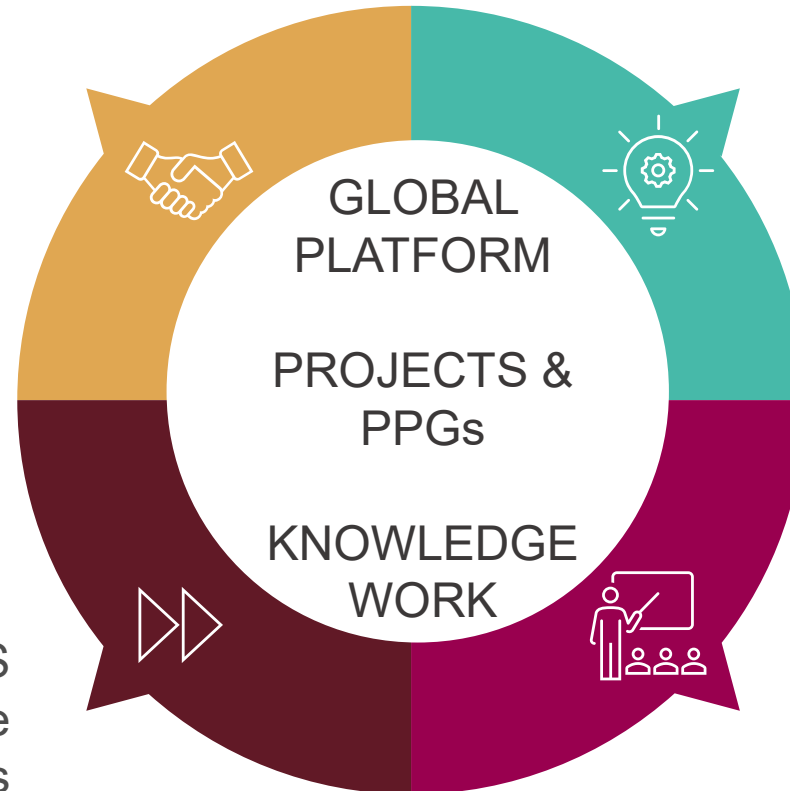
STDF's Global Partnership: Strengthening capacity to Facilitate Safe Trade



- Set up by FAO, the World Bank, WHO, WOAHA and WTO.
- Supported by 11 donors, engaging developing country experts, international/regional organizations and the private sector.
- Supporting the public and private sector to implement international standards (Codex, IPPC, WOAHA).
- 270+ grants to develop and/or deliver innovative, collaborative safe trade projects in 80+ countries, contributing to the SDGs.
- *“The target countries and sectors that have benefitted from STDF support have seen stronger export growth in plants, animals and foods than their comparators”*, External evaluation (2024).

How STDF drives change and safe trade results

CONVENE stakeholders with a role in the implementation of international standards at global, regional and national level

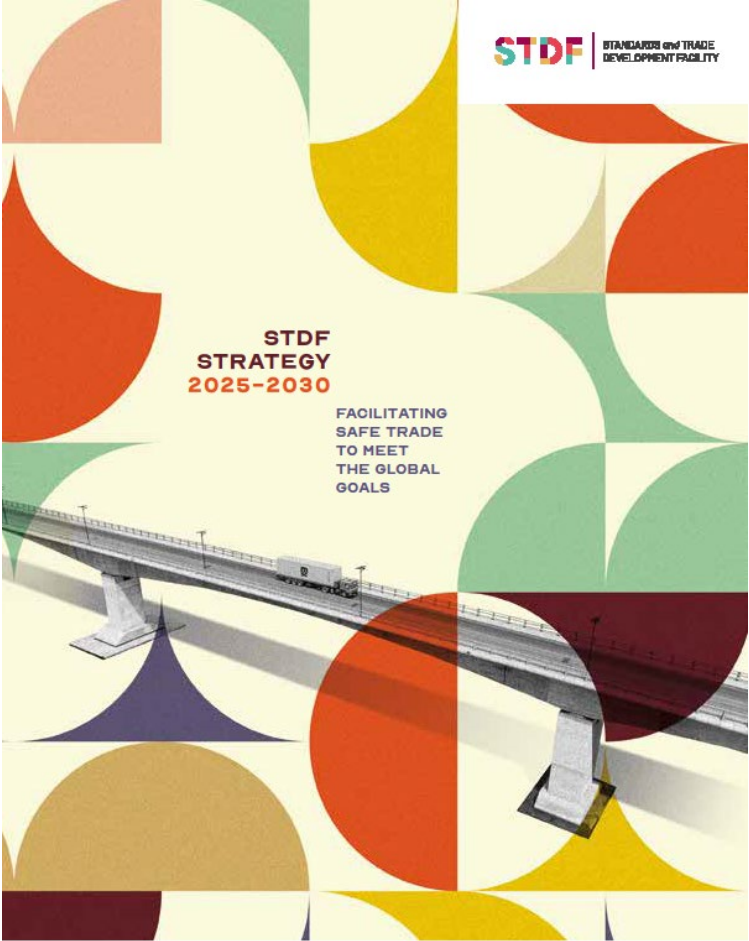


INNOVATE and pilot new approaches and scalable SPS solutions

CATALYSE change, scale SPS innovations, promote uptake and leverage investments

LEARN about what works well and less well

STDF Strategy for 2025-2030



Knowledge to support safe trade facilitation



Remote Audit and Inspection for SPS Compliance:
A 21st Century Approach to Safe Trade



PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS FOR IMPROVED SPS SYSTEMS AND SAFE TRADE FACILITATION

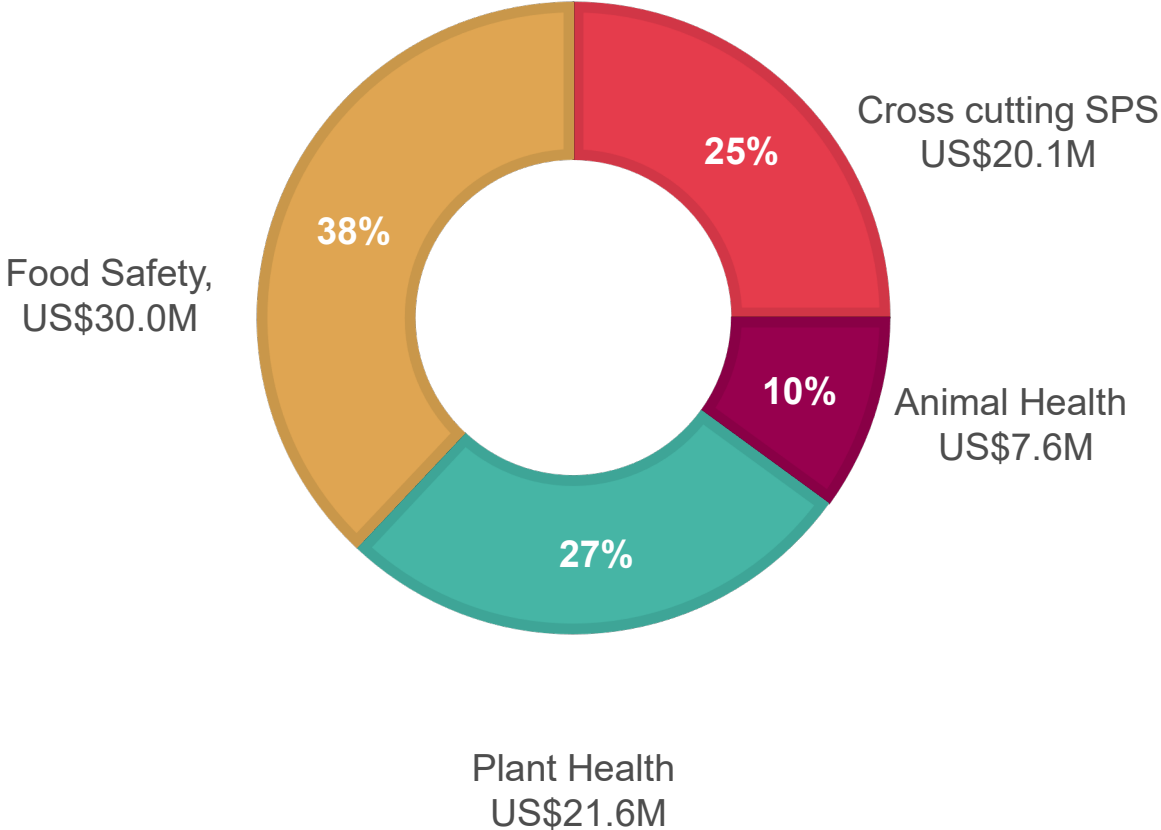
Learning about the why?
the what? and the how?



voluntary Third-Party Assurance (vTPA) Programme Assessment Tool

STDF Projects and Project Preparation Grants: 2004–2024

US\$79.3 million in STDF funding for 263 projects and PPGs (until end 2024)



59% of STDF grant resources have gone to projects benefitting LDCs

US\$82.3M in STDF project resources has leveraged US\$42.9M (in-kind or financial)

Africa has benefitted most, followed by Asia & the Pacific, Latin America and the Caribbean

Remote audit and verification practices to facilitate food trade in ASEAN (STDF/PG/782)

- Support to operationalize Codex Principles and Guidelines on the Use of Remote Audit and Inspection in Regulatory Frameworks.
- Pilot innovative practices in the fisheries sector in Cambodia, Indonesia and the Philippines.
- Promote harmonized practices across ASEAN.
- Develop knowledge, practices and learning on the use of remote audit and inspection that can be scaled up globally.



Addressing cadmium contamination affecting cocoa trade: STDF regional projects in Latin America & the Caribbean (STDF/PG/577 and STDF/PG/681)



- Supported countries to generate reliable information on cadmium (Cd) levels in cocoa beans.
- Informed work to establish Codex Cd Maximum Levels for cocoa and cocoa-derived products.
- Contributed to development of Code of Practice for Prevention and Reduction of Cadmium Contamination in Cocoa Beans – now a Codex reference document.
- External project evaluation (2025) recognized project's role in promoting partnerships, innovations and tools that facilitated safe trade.

Strengthening capacity to meet pesticide export requirements: STDF regional projects in Africa, Latin America and Asia

- Increased knowledge and skills to generate, review and interpret pesticide residue data – supported participation of developing countries in Codex work.
- Data from 10+ residue studies used to generate 10+ MRLs for tropical produce (e.g. dragon fruit, mango, papaya).
- Private sector registered new reduced-risk pesticides in 18+ countries.
- Scaling up through the Global Minor Use Foundation to expand low-risk pesticide options for tropical produce.



Other selected examples of STDF projects and PPGs supporting the use of Codex standards and guidelines for safe trade



- Regional projects to pilot voluntary 3rd party assurance programmes in Africa and Central America.
- Safer Spices: Rolled out a Codex of Practice for peppercorn, based on Codex standards.
- South Asia: PPG linked to update of Codex Code of Practice on aflatoxin contamination in peanuts.

Looking forward: How can the STDF support the use of Codex standards for safe trade facilitation?

New opportunities for transformational projects to achieve impact at scale

- Electronic food safety certification, building on the results of the STDF e-Phyto project and ongoing e-Vet project in Latin America and the Caribbean?
- Use of AI to support the implementation of Codex standards for safe trade facilitation?
- Other suggestions?





Find out More



Explore our website: www.standardsfacility.org



Follow us on LinkedIn: @ Standards and Trade
Development Facility



Sign up for the STDF e-news

<https://standardsfacility.org/newsletter>



Subscribe to STDF's YouTube Channel:

@STDFvideos

With thanks to STDF donors for their trust and long-standing support



Ministry for Foreign
Affairs of Finland



Kingdom of the Netherlands



STANDARDS *and* TRADE
DEVELOPMENT FACILITY



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations



WORLD BANK GROUP



World Health
Organization



World Organisation
for Animal Health
Founded as OIE



WORLD TRADE
ORGANIZATION