Overview of the Use of the MCDA Framework to Prioritize SPS Capacity Building Options in ETHIOPIA

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Presentation Outline

- Previous work on SPS capacity-building needs
- How was the MCDA framework applied?
- Reflections on the MCDA analysis – benefits
- Reflections on the MCDA analysis – challenges
- Messages to other countries interested in the MCDA framework
- Messages to the STDF
Previous work on SPS capacity-building needs

• Upon an official request of the Government of Ethiopia, the Ethiopian Veterinary Service underwent a PVS Evaluation, coordinated and conducted by the OIE

The following gaps were identified
• Legal Framework for animal welfare and handling
• Facilities for residue tastes
• Well established system for traceability and animal identification
• Well established system for HACCP
• Lack of Accredited Laboratories
How was the MCDA framework applied

Work on MCDA framework started in August 2012

It involved the following stakeholders:

- Public Sector – Senior Experts from Line ministries (MoA, MoT, CSA...etc.)
- Private Sector – Associations (EMPEA, EHA, ELTEA ..etc.)
- Academia – Universities (AAU)
- Other – National Codex Committee

The process was led / driven and coordinated by:

- At regional level by the COMESA
- At national level by Ministries of Agriculture and Trade of Ethiopia
- Technical support from USAID
How was the MCDA framework applied

- 16 distinct SPS capacity-building options were prioritized on the basis of decision criteria and weights, derived by stakeholders.

- Data collection for information cards:
  - Used official, nationally-recognized source for official data (Central Statistics Agency)
  - Also used other available data from public sectors (MoA, MoT, MoI, etc.)

- Draft study was distributed widely among stakeholders for comments.
- Major revisions based on initial feedback.
- Further period for comments from November 2012 until March 2013.
- Report finalized on 31 March 2013.
Reflections on the MCDA analysis - benefits

Lessons Learnt
• The use of this tool helps to establish more coherent and accountable decisions in the allocation of scarce resources towards competing SPS capacity-building needs

Results gained
• We are planning to conduct the MCDA analysis once more -- results will be seen in the future
• Not possible to say yet if stakeholders are better able to build SPS capacity as a result of applying the MCDA framework
• No SPS capacity building activities conducted yet due to finance limitations (budget allocation)
Reflections on the MCDA analysis – challenges

Challenges

• Absence of reliable data
• Shortage of finance (budget allocation)
• High turnover of national SPS professionals (experts)

How to overcome challenges faced?

• On-going technical and financial support from WTO, OIE, FAO, IPPC, Codex...etc.
• Need to carefully manage and retain well-trained government staff
Messages to other countries interested in the MCDA framework

• The use of MCDA will help you to establish more coherent and accountable priorities

• Helps to inform resource allocation decisions when you have competing SPS capacity-building needs

• Because the lack of data can seriously impede such analyses, you have to improve data (should be up-to-date and reliable)

• Even if you don’t have a national budget to improve SPS capacity, still useful to apply the MCDA framework to understand the SPS situation and to better see the way forward.
Messages to the STDF

• We would like to acknowledge the inventors of the MCDA framework
• Develop a multi-user software
• Since MCDA framework is a new approach, there should sufficient time for hands-on training of national staff on how to use it.
Thank you for your attention!!!