BACKGROUND

Aid donors are increasingly seeking to engage the private sector in development, in order to leverage stagnating official development assistance budgets, harness private sector innovations and improve the effectiveness and value-for-money of development interventions by working through partnerships. These partnerships engage public and private stakeholders in collective action based on shared objectives. The goal is to achieve more together than would be possible alone, and to improve the effectiveness of the results generated.

In October 2010, the STDF, in collaboration with the Dutch Ministry of Agriculture, Nature and Food Quality (LNV) and the World Bank Institute, organized an international workshop on the role of Public-Private Partnerships (PPPs) in support of SPS capacity. In April 2012, based on the findings and conclusions of the workshop, desk research and consultations with selected stakeholders directly involved in PPPs in different parts of the world, the STDF released, jointly with the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), a publication entitled: “Public-Private Partnerships to enhance SPS capacity: What can we learn from this collaborative approach?”. This paper analyses the emergence, operation and performance of selected SPS-related partnerships, raises awareness about the potential value and role of PPPs in enhancing SPS capacity and provides practical guidance to facilitate and promote PPPs for SPS capacity development.

In 2012, the North-South Institute (NSI), commissioned by the Trade Facilitation Office of Canada (TFO Canada) and supported by the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA), carried out research in the context of how partnerships with the private sector can be used to support and improve sustainable economic growth outcomes through trade, as part of a broader initiative which included a Symposium on trade-related private sector partnerships held in Ottawa in November 2012. In January 2013, a report entitled: “Models for Trade-Related Private Sector Partnerships for Development” was published. This paper seeks to examine what different actors are doing in the field of trade-related private sector partnerships and assess their results. While the goal of the broader project is to identify models of good practice in this area, the research component focuses on exploring different models for these partnerships. Lessons learned and good practices highlighted during the Symposium are incorporated in the report.

OBJECTIVE

The objective of this event is to present the report prepared by the North-South Institute entitled “Models for Trade-Related Private Sector Partnerships for Development”, to disseminate the results of STDF work on SPS-related PPPs and to foster dialogue among public and private sector expert on key lessons learned and recommendations to enhance the future development and implementation of PPPs aiming to help developing countries in connecting to value chains. Specific experiences and case studies will be presented and discussed.

In particular the following key questions will be addressed:

- What is the role and potential of PPPs in helping developing countries connect to value chains? What have been the experiences, challenges, innovations and results?
- What role can and should different types of stakeholders (governments, private sector, development partners, etc.) play in facilitating PPPs in the context of connecting to value chains?
- How can the longer-term sustainability of PPPs that seek the inclusion of smallholders in agricultural value chains be ensured?

For more information see the STDF website: www.standardsfacility.org/en/TAAidForTrade4GR.htm

PROGRAMME

I. Introduction of NSI report: "Models for Trade-Related Private Sector Partnerships for Development"

Shannon Kindornay, NSI

II. Introduction of STDF/IDB report: "Public-Private Partnerships to enhance SPS capacity: What can we learn from this collaborative approach?"

Melvin Spreij, STDF

III. Panel discussion:

Discussants will briefly present specific examples of PPPs aiming to help developing countries in connecting to value chains and provide their views on the key questions mentioned above.

Moderator: Brian Mitchell, Executive Director, TFO Canada

Discussants:

- Frans Claassen, General Manager, Product Board for Margarine, Fats and Oils (MVO), Netherlands
- Sarada De Silva, Chairman, Sri Lanka Spice Council
- Samy Lopez, Marketing & Sales Manager, Federación de Cooperativas de las Verapaces (FEDECOVERA), Guatemala
- Esteban Rial, Project Coordinator, Fundación Barrera Fitozoosanitaria Patagónica (FUNBAPA), Argentina
- Mike Robach, Vice-President, Corporate Food Safety & Regulatory Affairs at Cargill
- Guy Stinglhamber, Director, PIP/COLEACP Programme, European Union