

## MANAGING THE RISK OF COVID-19 ACROSS STDF'S GLOBAL PARTNERSHIP

### Report on impacts and response measures: 28 February 2022

#### 1. Overview

1. During the two years since COVID-19 was declared a global pandemic in March 2020, STDF members and other stakeholders involved in activities under STDF's three workstreams have continued to deliver results, despite the disruptions and uncertainty. From April 2020 onwards, when the first online STDF Working Group meeting took place, STDF members, the Secretariat and other stakeholders involved in implementation of STDF projects and Project Preparation Grants (PPGs) sought to manage the risks faced, facilitating adaptation and continuity as far as possible.

2. This report provides an updated analysis of the impact of COVID-19 on STDF's global platform, knowledge work and project portfolio, as well as the risk mitigation measures taken from July 2021 to end February 2022. It complements the previous STDF risk management reports issued in July 2021, April 2020 and November 2020.<sup>1</sup> It is targeted at STDF partners, donors and other stakeholders involved in the STDF. Additional information on COVID-19, including resources provided by STDF partners and others, is available on the STDF [webpage](#).

3. Given the evolution of the pandemic, increasing vaccination coverage and the lifting of restrictions globally, the impacts of COVID-19 for the STDF's work appear to be diminishing. The [STDF work plan for 2022](#) (approved by the Working Group in October 2021) anticipated the opportunity for some travel and delivery of some on-site activities in 2022. Preparations are underway for the first STDF Working Group meeting to take place in June 2022 in Geneva. Other activities that are part of STDF's knowledge work (e.g. STDF event on public-private partnerships) are planned to take place on-site and/or via hybrid means in 2022. It is expected that some international travel will be able to resume under STDF projects and PPGs in 2022. Linked to these developments, COVID-19 risk monitoring for projects and PPGs is being incorporated into progress reporting and monitoring via the online STDF MEL Tool (LogAlto). Assuming the latest developments with the pandemic continue, no further risk reports focused exclusively on COVID-19 are planned.

#### 2. STDF's Global platform: virtual meetings and communications ensure continuity

4. While members of the STDF's global partnership are now well used to working virtually and meetings take place smoothly using online platforms (Zoom), the geographical spread of members makes it challenging for all members (especially those in Australia and the Pacific) to participate equally. The Working Group met for the fourth time virtually (via Zoom) on 19-21 October 2021.<sup>2</sup> As in previous online meetings, the Working Group effectively covered several items related to STDF's three workstreams. Two new [projects](#) and four [PPGs](#) were approved in October, bringing the total number of grants approved in 2021 to four projects and nine PPGs. This compares to five projects and seven PPGs approved in 2020.

5. An online meeting of the STDF Policy Committee took place on 14 October 2021, chaired by WTO DDG Paugam and attended by DDGs of FAO, OIE, and senior representatives of other partners. During the meeting, partners recognized the progress made by STDF members in adapting to the challenges of the pandemic, highlighting STDF's achievements in convening SPS stakeholders in virtual meetings, practitioner groups, webinars and other online events as part of STDF's three workstreams.<sup>3</sup> From July 2021 to end Feb. 2022, the STDF Secretariat participated in more than 30 online events organized by STDF partners and other stakeholders.

6. Work is continuing to support results-based management of the STDF programme including procurement of a new online tool ([LogAlto](#)) for Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning (MEL), training sessions to set-up and pilot this Tool with the STDF Secretariat and selected STDF project partners, and meetings of the STDF MEL Group (on 6 Dec. 2021 and 28 Feb. 2022).

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<sup>1</sup> See: [www.standardsfacility.org/updates-covid-19](http://www.standardsfacility.org/updates-covid-19)

<sup>2</sup> See the summary report: [standardsfacility.org/working-group-documents](http://standardsfacility.org/working-group-documents)

<sup>3</sup> See the summary report: [www.standardsfacility.org/policy-committee-summary-reports](http://www.standardsfacility.org/policy-committee-summary-reports)

### 3. STDF Knowledge work: continuing to adapt and innovate

7. Knowledge work continued to advance on several topics in 2021, with seven Practitioner Group meetings held. This included three meetings of the Practitioner Group on PPPs,<sup>4</sup> two meetings on electronic SPS certification<sup>5</sup> and two meetings on prioritizing SPS investments for market access (P-IMA).<sup>6</sup> Taking place online, the Practitioner Groups have provided an additional means for STDF Working Group members and other stakeholders to exchange information and engage in the STDF's knowledge work, including to promote linkages and synergies with projects. In 2022 an internal assessment is planned to take stock of and reflect on the operation, outcomes and potential of the Practitioner Groups, which were created as a new mechanism to support delivery of the STDF Strategy for 2020-2024.

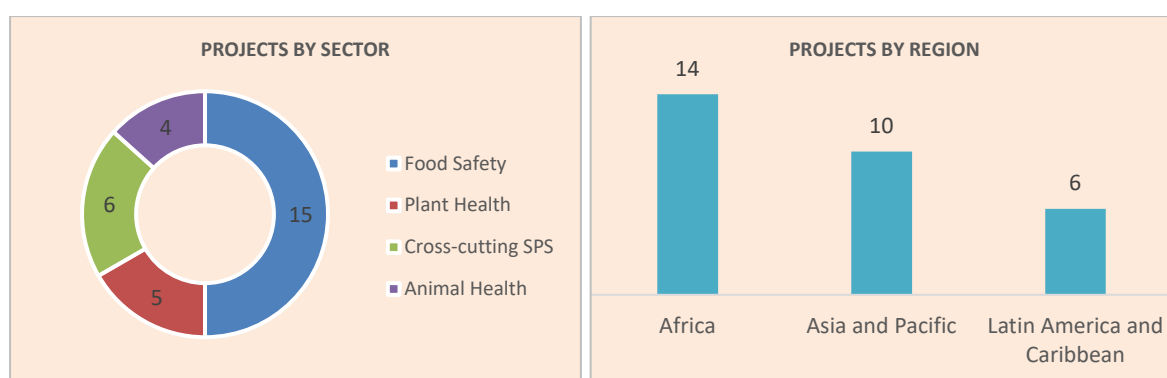
8. The STDF Guide on Good Regulatory Practices (GRPs) was published in November 2021. Work to finalize the Guide benefitted from substantive inputs provided during online meetings by interested STDF members and SPS stakeholders at the country/regional level. An online event, targeted at SPS Committee delegates, was organized on the margins of the SPS Committee meeting in November 2021 to disseminate information on the GRP Guide and encourage its use. Other knowledge work – including on PPPs and P-IMA – also continued, largely unaffected by the pandemic. Ten stories profiling examples of PPPs related to food safety, animal and plant health were finalized and published on the STDF website by the end of February 2022.<sup>7</sup> Work advanced on the P-IMA Facilitator Guide, which is now being finalized for publication.

### 4. STDF's Project and PPG portfolio: ongoing risk management and adaptation

9. In contrast to STDF's global platform and knowledge workstreams, which could more easily adapt to online delivery, the pandemic has caused greater disruptions and challenges for projects and PPGs. Throughout the pandemic, the STDF Secretariat has worked closely with organizations implementing STDF projects, as well as PPG organizations/consultants, to address the impacts of COVID-19 on planning and delivery. Ongoing efforts have taken place to review, adjust and update work plans, budgets, and logical frameworks, as well as risk mitigation strategies. Implementing partners and the STDF Secretariat have engaged regularly on decisions to adapt and ensure continuity on planning, delivery and spending.

10. At the end of February 2022, STDF had 30 projects and 23 PPGs under implementation and/or at the pre-contracting stage (see below). Of these, 21 projects and 7 PPGs had been approved and/or started before March 2020. Annex 1 provides additional information on projects and PPGs that are ongoing and/or awaiting contracting.

#### STDF's Project and PPG portfolio (28 Feb. 2022)

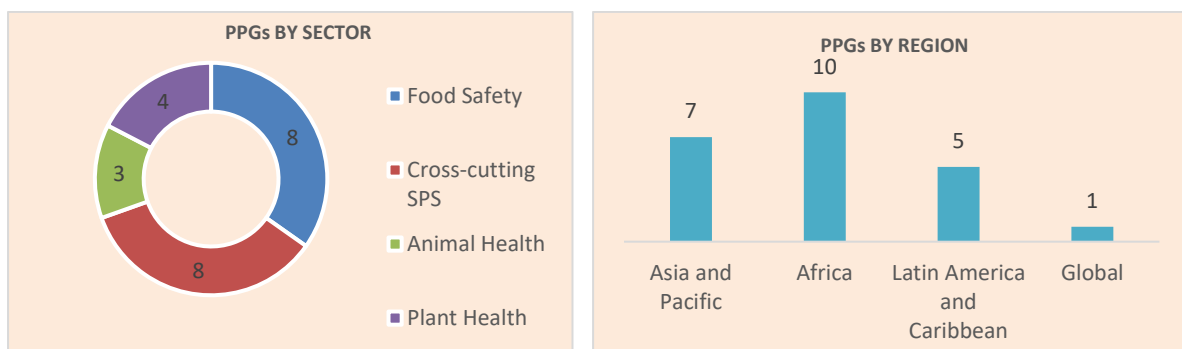


<sup>4</sup> See: [www.standardsfacility.org/stdf-public-private-partnerships-ppps-practitioner-group](http://www.standardsfacility.org/stdf-public-private-partnerships-ppps-practitioner-group)

<sup>5</sup> See: [www.standardsfacility.org/sps-ecac](http://www.standardsfacility.org/sps-ecac)

<sup>6</sup> See: [www.standardsfacility.org/stdf-prioritizing-sps-investments-market-access-p-ima-practitioner-group](http://www.standardsfacility.org/stdf-prioritizing-sps-investments-market-access-p-ima-practitioner-group)

<sup>7</sup> See: [www.standardsfacility.org/public-private-partnership-ppp-case-stories](http://www.standardsfacility.org/public-private-partnership-ppp-case-stories)



11. Two external ex post evaluations were completed in 2021: (i) Strengthening the SPS system in Comoros ([STDF/PG/242](#)) and (ii) regional food and food safety programme ([STDF/PG/345](#)). The evaluation findings were presented to STDF members and other stakeholders, and published on the STDF website. In view of the uncertainty regarding travel and the local sanitary restrictions, both evaluations were conducted remotely.

### Impacts of COVID-19 on STDF projects and PPGs: Key findings from an online survey

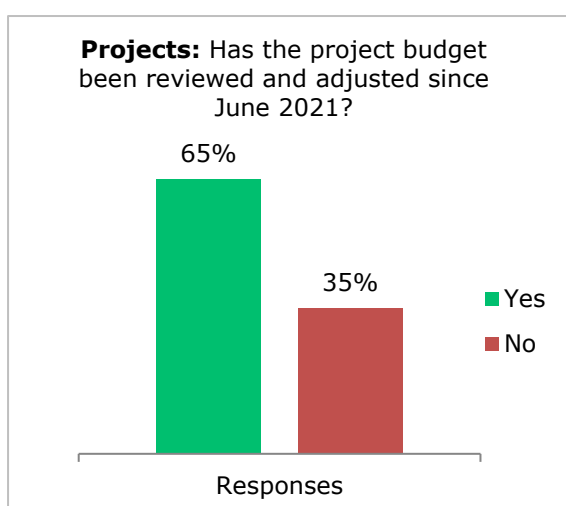
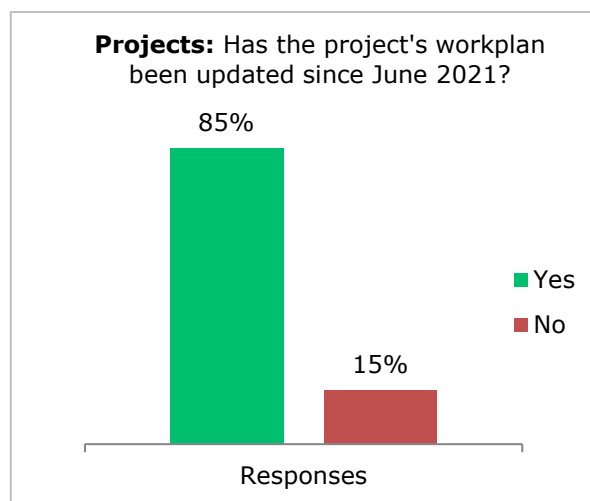
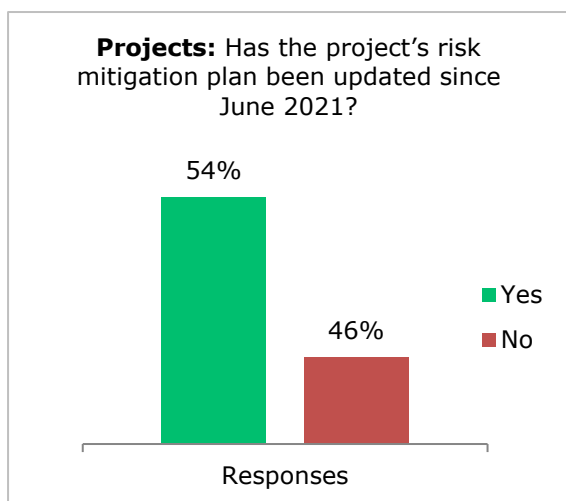
12. While stakeholders involved in the delivery of projects and PPGs have made considerable efforts to innovate and adapt since March 2020 (as highlighted in the three previous COVID-19 risk reports), responses to the latest STDF COVID-19 risk survey reveal how ongoing challenges related to COVID-19 have impacted delivery and performance.

13. Separate surveys targeted at project and PPG stakeholders were carried out online (via SurveyMonkey) in English, French and Spanish in February 2022. The project survey was completed by respondents representing 26 (out of 27) ongoing projects. Responses to the PPG survey were received for 14 (out of 18) ongoing PPGs. All respondents from STDF projects were representatives of project implementing organization. PPG respondents comprised representatives of the implementing organization/consultant (64% of respondents), as well as PPG applicants (36% of respondents). Feedback is documented below.

### Ongoing efforts to update project risk mitigation plans, workplans and budgets

14. The findings demonstrate how risk management efforts have varied, depending on the specific situation. Ongoing uncertainty and difficulties for project implementing organizations and consultants to travel to the project sites has required ongoing adjustments to workplans. Extensive and ongoing efforts have also been made to review and update project risk mitigation plans and budgets (see below).

15. Several projects had already reviewed and/or updated their project risk mitigation plan and/or project work plan at least once, prior to February 2022, in consultation with project stakeholders and the STDF Secretariat. For instance, the COVID-19 risk report issued in July 2021 showed that 83% of projects had put in place a targeted risk mitigation plan and 78% had updated their workplan as of 30 June 2021.



### Ongoing efforts to adapt and respond to challenges caused by COVID-19

16. Since July 2021, STDF projects and PPGs have continued to face many of the same challenges previously identified. Continued uncertainty regarding international and national travel has seriously limited the ability to organize face-to-face interactions on-site. In Asia, when the overall situation appeared to be improving, it suddenly changed again for the worse. One project implementing partner noted: "The project activities were also impacted by the surge of new variant of COVID-19 (Omicron variant) in Dec 2021-Jan 2022, especially the field level activities, which require physical movement/interactions with farmers/stakeholders." Another commented that "Covid-19 has broken out strongly since June 2021, so field deployment and face-to-face meetings are not possible".

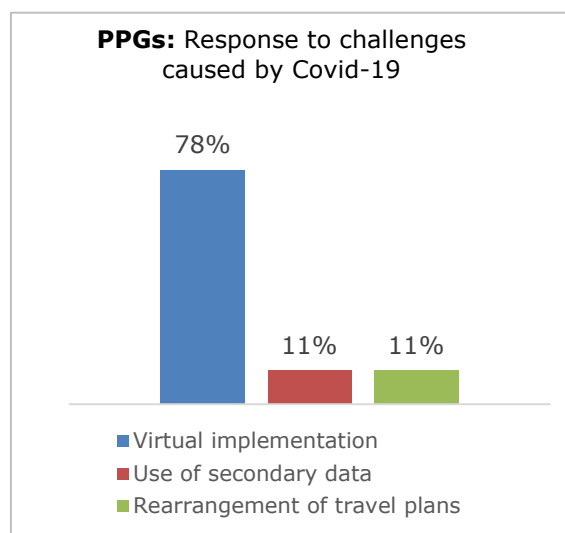
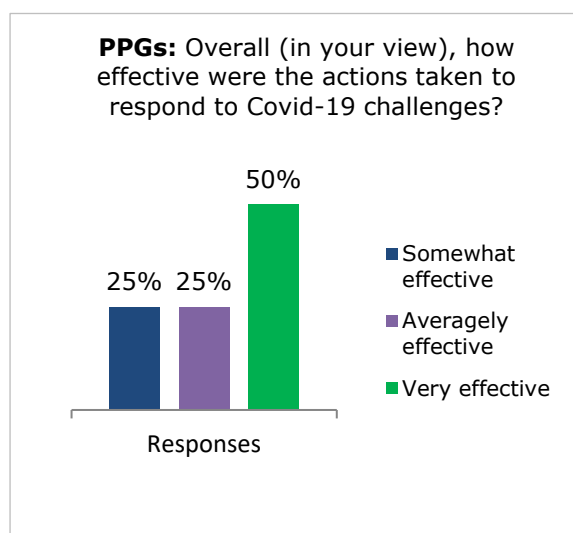
17. This ongoing uncertainty has required ongoing flexibility and adaption including the need to re-design, scale back and/or postpone planned on-site capacity building and training activities. Several survey respondents indicated that some activities could not be carried out or had to be adapted, which slowed down the pace of implementation. Some clarified how they were working closely with everyone remotely to make sure that no-one gets left behind, using multiple communication methods to ensure everyone feels involved and has access to the information they need to advance project activities.

18. For PPGs, in addition to uncertainty and the inability to carry out mission travel, respondents pointed to other challenges including difficulties to ensure stakeholder engagement and slow response rates, problems to obtain correct and up-to-date information, challenges to work virtually

with stakeholders located in different time zones, and restricted domestic travel due to national lockdowns. One respondent explained how PPG stakeholders were unavailable (due to illness, caring responsibilities, curfews, reduced working hours, etc.). One respondent highlighted how the ongoing uncertainty related to the evolving nature of lockdowns and travel restrictions affected the ability to plan with any certainty.

19. Respondents to the PPG survey reported on how they adapted to the challenges generated by COVID-19. Moving to virtual delivery was the overwhelming response to the challenges. Some respondents also pointed to the use of secondary data and postponement / rearrangement of travel (see below). Overall, while PPG consultants and implementing organizations showed perseverance, they generally found the experience of project development in the pandemic extremely challenging. One PPG consultant summarized this as follows: "The internet connections and communications were difficult. It was difficult to get feedback, get requested information or documents. People seemed demotivated by their working conditions and not very much interested. ... Luckily that pandemics are rare events because this is an exercise I would not like to live again."

20. While these measures have generally helped to maintain momentum and delivery, stakeholders have different views on their effectiveness. For instance, for PPG survey respondents while 50% consider that actions taken to respond to challenges related to COVID-19 have been very effective, 25% say they have only been somewhat effective.



21. Several PPG respondents reflected on their experiences with the move to virtual delivery for PPG work. In a few cases, PPG respondents considered the experience as generally satisfactory (e.g. delivery of training on P-IMA in the Caribbean region). However, in most cases online delivery of PPG work was considered as challenging and much less effective than the traditional approach involving mission travel (see Box 1).

### **Box 1. Reflections from PPG implementors on the move to virtual delivery**

- "Online training on the P-IMA framework works well" (STDF/PPG/733)
- "The training course could have been more useful in person, but all the topics to be discussed were completed". (STDF/PPG/709)
- "The proposed activities were carried out, although not within the expected timeframe. Face-to-face discussion is required. As there are so many virtual meetings, participants do not have time for extended meetings and continuity in the process is lost." (STDF/PPG/753)
- "The quality of the information was not always the best. The hypothesis was in most cases difficult to test. Most of the responses had unexpected bias, which was challenging to identify because of long-distance interaction with stakeholders. The analysis became delayed due to travel restrictions and the unavailability of reliable information." (STDF/PPG/721)
- "Impossible for International Consultant to assess the current situation at relevant locations to the detail necessary to begin formulating areas to be prioritized for capacity building activities. My usual way of working involves establishing rapport with key stakeholders individually, something I feel I do only with direct contact preferably onsite, where equipment and/or operational constraints affecting the frequency of particular activities are obvious." (STDF/PPG/734)
- "Beneficiaries were either unable or unwilling to convene in-person due to COVID-19-related measures and more urgent priorities. The implementing agency had to pursue individual follow-up over the phone and leverage relational capital with trade support institutions from previous projects to gather primary research". (STDF/PPG/721)
- "Meetings with countries were all virtual, both with the agriculture and health sectors. Information to formulate the PG was gathered, but it required significant time and effort from all participants during 2021." (STDF/PPG/716)

22. Project and PPG implementors responded to the challenges posed by the pandemic in different ways, including by organizing more virtual and/or hybrid events (project stakeholders on-site connecting virtually with external experts and/or implementing organizations), and by collaborating with local consultants to support work on the ground. Certain activities proved more amenable to online delivery than others. In addition, specific characteristics of the national/regional context for the project/PPG – such as the availability of key public and private sector stakeholders to fully engage, and the existence and strength of relationships between key stakeholders involved – were important factors influencing adaptation and delivery.

23. For instance, in India, FAO in coordination with Spices Board India is developing the strategies to implement the operational activities in hybrid mode (online and in person), including TOT and workshops targeted at farmers in the spices value chains (STDF/PG/517). The move to incorporate virtual delivery in all projects – even ones in which an online training model initially appeared too complex or inappropriate, for instance for microbiological laboratory training (STDF/PG/521) – has been notable. While this has worked well and generated benefits (including cost-savings in some cases), in other cases there have been limitations (see Box 2).

## **Box 2. Reflections from project implementing organizations on the move to virtual delivery**

- "Covid-19 has shown that there are certain elements of project implementation that are extremely amenable to online delivery. Certain meetings, for instance, can be effectively conducted online. This makes it possible not only to reach several people, but also significantly reduces project costs." (STDF/PG/634)
- "To build capacity in analytical methods (microbiology), while on-site training and direct intervention is the preferred mode ... the project has implemented virtual training as efficiently as possible. This could become a preferred way of training across Small Island Developing Countries (SIDS) even when travel resumes after the pandemic. A lesson learnt is to have a provision for a locally recruited consultant on such projects. Especially in times of isolation, such as due to border closures, the consultant can physically visit the project site and report back to the implementing agency and the donor." (STDF/PG/521)
- "Thanks to the pandemic we have found other ways of online communication and implementation of virtual activities, however this has delayed the process of execution of activities that would be more agile in person." (STDF/PG/682)
- "Online trainings, workshops and events were organized to proceed the project implementation but the effectiveness has been affected. Communication with counterparts and beneficiaries was also affected due to lack of internet service and access." (STDF/PG/435)
- "Since the pandemic, some support has been provided remotely. With the Internet connection not very good (except in the big towns), this has been a limiting factor." (STDF/PG/375)
- "We have also noticed when having more virtual activities that certain online tools required effort on the part of the teams to learn how to use them (surveys, shared folders in the cloud, among others) that have made the process more time-consuming." (STDF/PG/682)
- "Training modules have been re-developed for online delivery and are now available on demand" (STDF/PG/432)
- "Although it has been an important support during the pandemic, participation in seminars and video call meetings has declined considerably over time. Countries expect face-to-face and in-field trainings to better understand and apply the knowledge learned" (STDF/PG/665)
- "Due to covid-19, we are utilizing the CABI e-learning platform (CABI Academy) to create and deliver content originally planned for in-person training. The CABI Academy team have offered their time in-kind to support this process" (STDF/PG/619)

24. Zoom fatigue is a reality for the majority of implementing organizations and beneficiaries. Several implementing partners have emphasized how online engagement takes more time and effort, and is less effective and productive than on-site delivery, particularly in places (including Least Developed Countries) where Internet access is difficult, and connections are unstable. One implementing partner commented that "there is a decreasing interest of people in the countries to engage in activities via Zoom, participants expect face-to-face meetings and trainings" (STDF/PG/665).

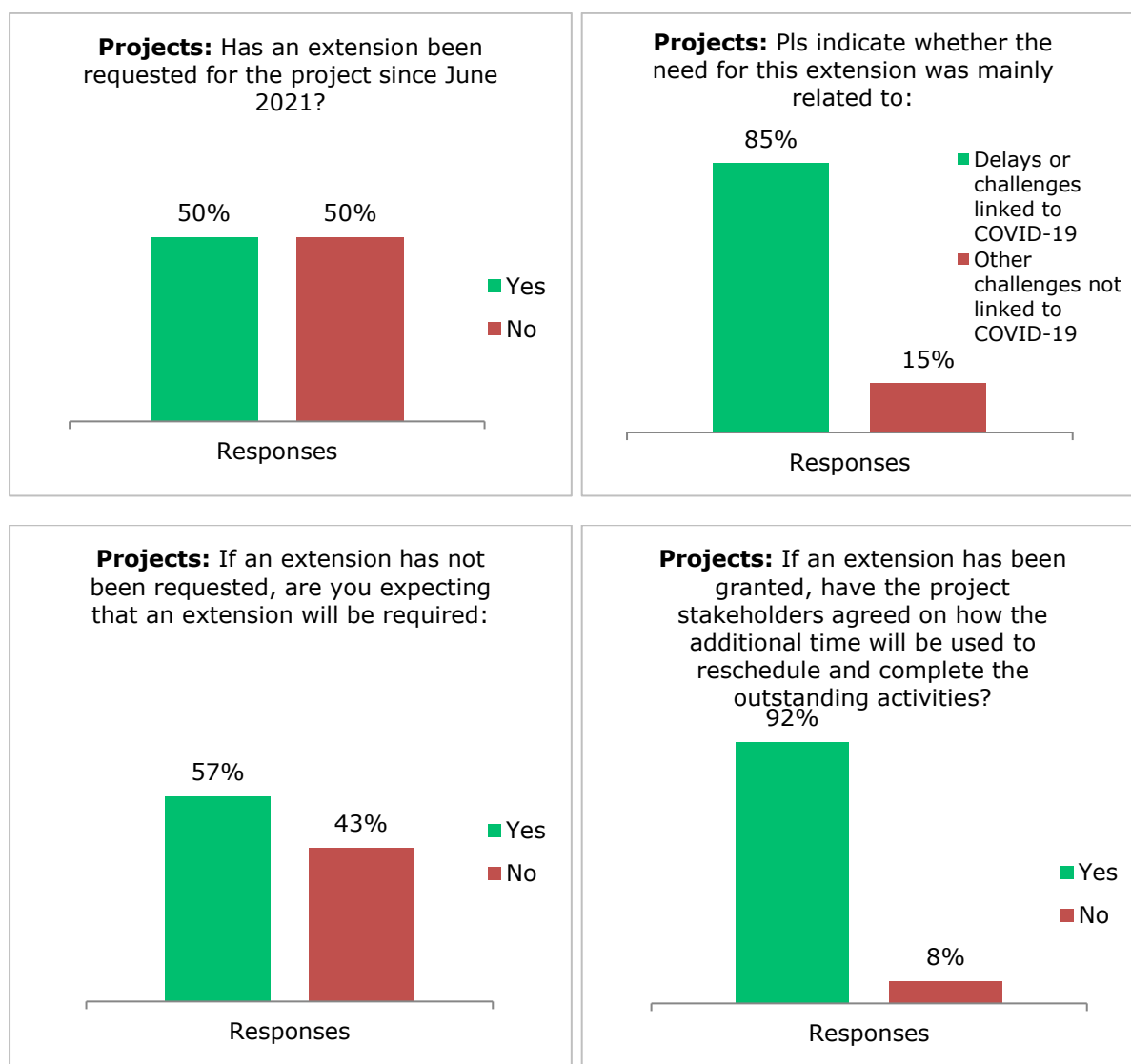
### **Delays in implementation and no-cost extension requests**

25. Unsurprising, the pandemic has resulted in extensive delays in implementation. Given the reliance on international experts for PPGs, and challenges related to international travel, delivery of work under all PPGs has been delayed to some degree. There have also been a number of requests for extensions to projects (already considered by the STDF Working Group), with several more extension requests expected. Overall, fifteen projects have requested extensions since March 2020. The majority of projects requesting an extension have linked the need for this extension to the pandemic. Out of 50% respondents indicating that they project had requested an extension since June 2021, 85% said the extension request was due to COVID-19. Out of 50% respondents whose



projects had not requested an extension since June 2021, 57% indicated that an extension request in the future would be likely.

26. In a few cases, project extensions were required because of challenges related to political instability, rather than COVID-19. Though project implementing partners have tended to regard COVID-19 as a major challenge that has amplified the impact of other challenges faced. For instance, one respondent noted: "The implementation of the project in Sudan was unique due to double shock caused by the political uncertainty leading to weak government engagement and COVID-19 pandemic making travels of international experts impossible" (STDF/PG/435).



27. Projects have pointed to the amount of significant time spent re-designing activities and timelines in response to the pandemic. Thirteen projects<sup>8</sup> needed to request more than one extension since March 2020. One project implementing partner who had requested an extension prior to June 2021 noted that even with this extension, the pandemic was "a key challenge for timely delivery of project outputs and achievement of targets in future by Oct. 2023" (STDF/PG/517).

<sup>8</sup> Notably STDF/PG/481 (Zambia), STDF/PG/553 (Papua New Guinea), STDF/PG/606 (COMESA), STDG/PG/521 (Solomon Islands), STDF/PG/477 (Ethiopia), STDF/PG/435 (Sudan), STDF/PG/543 (Uganda), STDF/PG/619 (Asia and Pacific), STDF/PG/534 (Mongolia), STDF/PG/567 (Southern Africa), STDF/PG/432 (Asia and Pacific), STDF/PG/566 (Burkina Faso), STDF/PG/495 (Latin America and Caribbean)



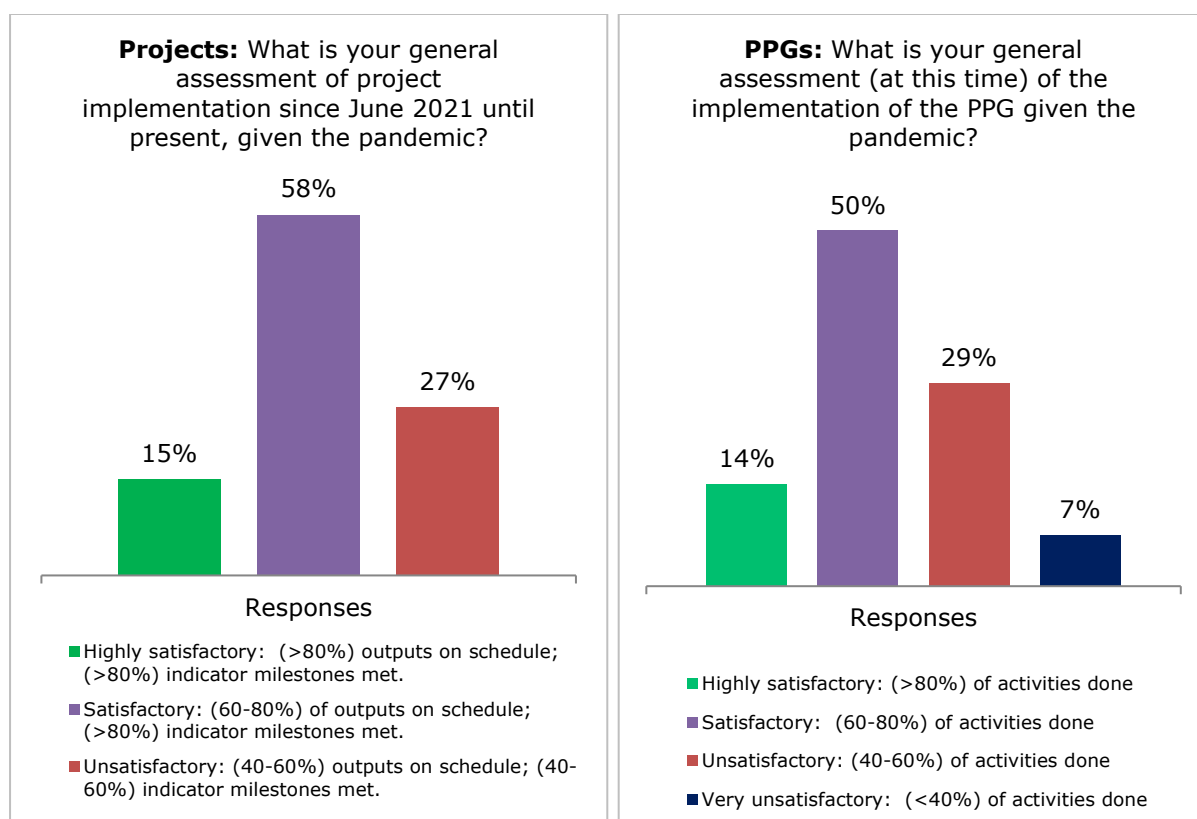
## Overall assessment on implementation and results

28. In a few instances, given the extent of the challenges, hard decisions had to be made to scale-back expectations under some ongoing projects and PPGs. For instance, in the Solomon Islands, the pandemic (coming on top of other pre-existing challenges) has made it impossible for the National Public Health Laboratory to achieve accreditation within the project lifetime, even with no-cost extensions (STDF/PG/521). In view of the situation, the project partners expect to set the laboratory on a clear pathway to achieve accreditation, and to leverage additional support to achieve accreditation after the project.

29. In the case of two PPGs, the need to work remotely has negatively impacted the ability of the implementing organizations/international PPG consultant to deliver the expected outputs, despite their best efforts and repeated follow-up. In Egypt, the PPG implementing organization was unable to carry out planned missions and have on-site meetings with public and private stakeholders. Virtual meetings (particularly with government officials) proved difficult to maintain and were unable to substitute for field visits ([STDF/PPG/720](#)). In Bhutan, despite having a national consultant in place, the international expert was unable to adequately understand and assess the actual situation at relevant border locations to the level of detail necessary to identify priorities for capacity building and formulate a proposal, and requested to terminate her contract ([STDF/PPG/734](#)). The Secretariat is identifying options to complete this PPG.

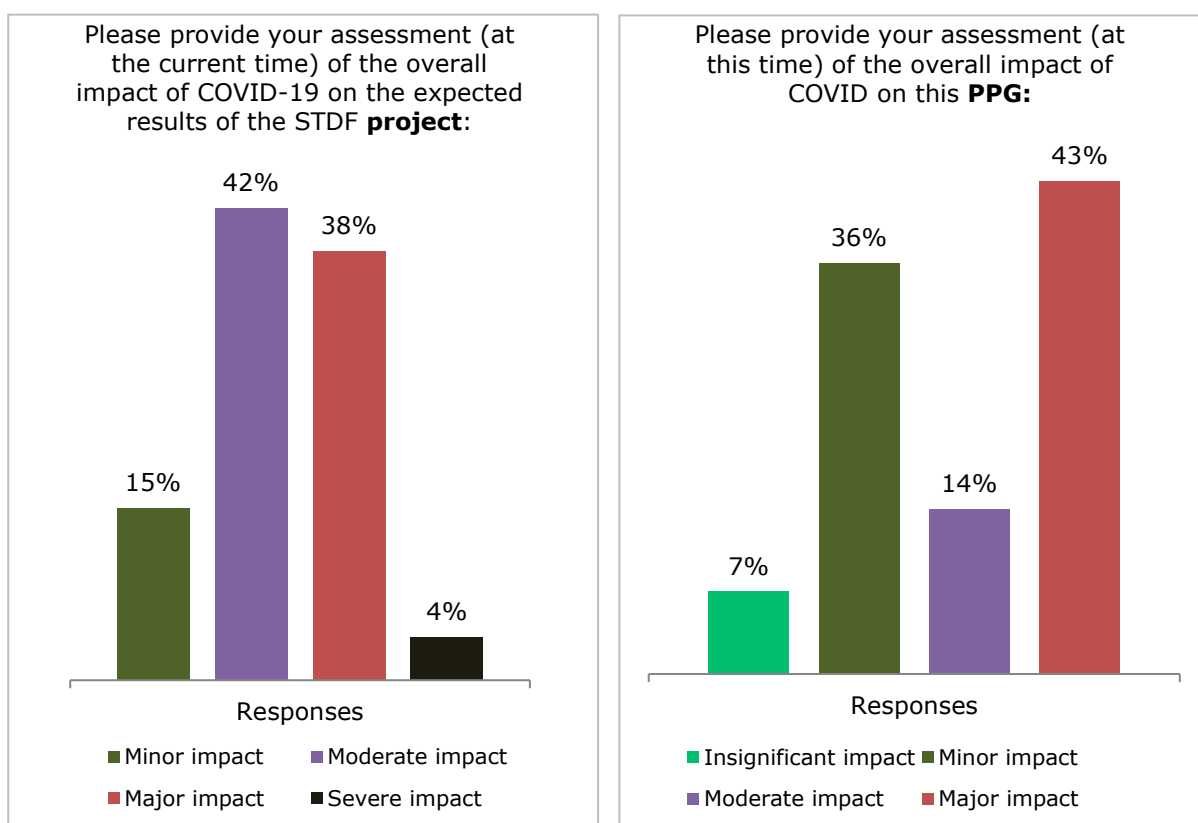
30. Yet despite the challenges faced, respondents from project implementing organizations and PPG stakeholders appear optimistic overall. As shown below, in February 2022 over 70% of survey respondents from project implementing organizations indicated that their general assessment of project implementation since June 2021 is satisfactory (58%) or highly satisfactory (15%). These figures are generally consistent with previous feedback received from project implementing partners in July 2021.

31. For PPGs, 64% of PPG respondents indicated that their general assessment of implementation was satisfactory or highly satisfactory. However, 36% indicated that it was unsatisfactory or highly unsatisfactory. The higher level of dissatisfaction on implementation expressed by PPG stakeholders reflects other feedback received by the STDF Secretariat from PPG stakeholders about the challenges and consequences of COVID-19 for PPG delivery.



32. The survey requested project/PPG respondents to share their views on the impact of COVID-19 on results (see below). For projects, 15% of respondents believe the pandemic will have a minor impact, 42% believe it will have a moderate impact, 38% believe it will have a major impact and 4% believe it will have a huge impact. For PPGs, 7% of respondents believe the pandemic will have an insignificant impact, 36% believe it will have a minor impact, 14% believe it will have a moderate impact and 43% believe it will have a major impact. Despite the challenges faced, it seems that in most cases, projects and PPGs have been able to adapt in different ways and are optimistic for the future.

33. Implementing partners are hopeful that on-site implementation (including face-to-face trainings and meetings with international/regional experts for projects and PPGs, as well as backstopping missions by implementing organizations) will be able to resume in 2022 so that they can catch up on delays and accelerate progress.



### Lessons learned

34. The online survey asked project implementing organizations to share lessons learned during the COVID-19 pandemic in relation to project strategy and design, project implementation and institutional arrangements, capacity building, communications, etc. Key words summing up feedback received from project and PPG implementing organizations on lessons are highlighted in the word cloud below. They are consistent with lessons identified in previous COVID-19 risk reports, as well as in discussions in the STDF Working Group meetings and other STDF virtual events.



## Annex 1

**Table 1: STDF Projects (Ongoing and/or to be contracted)**

Code	Project Title	Beneficiary	Implementing organization	Start year	End year
<a href="#">STDF/PG/375</a>	Strategy for strengthening Togo's SPS system	Togo	Europe-Africa-Caribbean-Pacific Liaison Committee (COLEACP)	2018	2022*
<a href="#">STDF/PG/432</a>	Promoting IT solutions for surveillance and pest reporting	Cambodia, Lao, Malaysia, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Thailand, Vietnam	Australia's Department of Agriculture and Water Resources (DAWR)	2016	2022*
<a href="#">STDF/PG/435</a>	Upgrading the Sudanese sesame seed value chain	Sudan	United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO)	2018	2022*
<a href="#">STDF/PG/447</a>	Improving food safety in honey and apricots to boost exports	Tajikistan	International Trade Centre (ITC)	2018	2022*
<a href="#">STDF/PG/477</a>	Improving sanitary capacity to facilitate livestock exports	Ethiopia	FAO Ethiopia	2018	2022*
<a href="#">STDF/PG/481</a>	Strengthening phytosanitary capacity for plant exports	Zambia	EIF National Implementation Unit, Zambia	2018	2022*
<a href="#">STDF/PG/495</a>	Accreditation of diagnostic tests for animal diseases	Belize, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, Panama	Organismo Internacional Regional de Sanidad Agropecuaria (OIRSA)	2016	2022*
<a href="#">STDF/PG/498</a>	Strengthening Guinea's phytosanitary system	Guinea	Europe-Africa-Caribbean-Pacific Liaison Committee (COLEACP)	2019	2022
<a href="#">STDF/PG/503</a>	Rolling out systems approach globally	Developing countries	International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC) Secretariat	2018	2021
<a href="#">STDF/PG/517</a>	Strengthening the spice value chain in India and improving market access	India	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)	2019	2023*

Code	Project Title	Beneficiary	Implementing organization	Start year	End year
<a href="#">STDF/PG/521</a>	Laboratory capacity building to support fish exports	Solomon Islands	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)	2017	2022*
<a href="#">STDF/PG/534</a>	Piloting an improved animal identification and registration system	Mongolia	FAO Mongolia	2019	2022*
<a href="#">STDF/PG/543</a>	Enhancing the capacity of Uganda's fruit and vegetable sector to comply with EU Phytosanitary requirements	Uganda	Centre for Agricultural Bioscience International (CABI)	2019	2022
<a href="#">STDF/PG/553</a>	Expanding cocoa trade	Papua New Guinea	PNG Cocoa Board	2018	2022*
<a href="#">STDF/PG/566</a>	Reduction of aflatoxin contamination in Burkina Faso maize	Burkina Faso	EIF National Implementation Unit, Burkina Faso	2019	2022
<a href="#">STDF/PG/567</a>	Establishment and maintenance of fruit production areas free and under low prevalence of fruit fly pests	Mozambique, South Africa	Agricultural Research Council-Tropical and Subtropical Crops (ARC-TSC)	2020	2023
<a href="#">STDF/PG/569</a>	Enhancing capacity for food safety management in the Kyrgyz fruit and vegetable industry	Kyrgyz Republic	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)	2020	2022
<a href="#">STDF/PG/577</a> **	Improving coordination to support management of cadmium levels in cocoa in Latin America and the Caribbean	Colombia, Ecuador, Peru, Trinidad & Tobago	IICA	2022	2024
<a href="#">STDF/PG/593</a>	Improving SPS capacity in the Penja pepper value chain	Cameroon	Europe-Africa-Caribbean-Pacific Liaison Committee (COLEACP)	2019	2022
<a href="#">STDF/PG/606</a>	Mainstreaming SPS investments into CAADP and other frameworks	COMESA members	Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA)	2018	2022*

Code	Project Title	Beneficiary	Implementing organization	Start year	End year
<a href="#">STDF/PG/611</a>	Promotion of Codex standards and codes of practice in the smoked fish sector and consequences on food safety in other sectors in Mali	Mali	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)	2021	2024
<a href="#">STDF/PG/619</a>	Safer spices: boosting food safety and market access for the peppercorn value chain	Cambodia, Lao PDR, Viet Nam	CABI South East Asia	2020	2023
<a href="#">STDF/PG/634</a>	Asia Pesticide Residue Mitigation through the Promotion of Biopesticides and Enhancement of Trade Opportunities	Bangladesh, Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Nepal, Sri Lanka	Asia-Pacific Association of Agricultural Research Institutions (APAARI)	2020	2023
<a href="#">STDF/PG/665</a>	Piloting the use of voluntary Third-Party Assurance Programmes in Africa (Mali and Senegal) to improve food safety outcomes for public health and trade	Mali and Senegal	United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO)	2020	2023
<a href="#">STDF/PG/672**</a>	Meeting sanitary standards to improve the safety of shellfish in Senegal and boost market access	Senegal	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)	2022 (March)	2025
<a href="#">STDF/PG/681</a>	Improving institutional capacity to mitigate trade barriers due to high cadmium levels in cacao	Colombia, Ecuador	Katholieke Universiteit Leuven (KU Leuven)	2020	2023
<a href="#">STDF/PG/682</a>	Piloting the use of Third-Party Assurance Programmes in Central America (Belize and Honduras) to improve food safety outcomes for public health and trade	Belize and Honduras	Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA)	2020	2023
<a href="#">STDF/PG/694</a>	Enhancing Trade Through Regulatory Harmonisation and Biopesticide-Based Residue Mitigation in the SADC Region	Botswana, Kenya, Mozambique, South Africa, Tanzania, Zambia, Zimbabwe	International Centre for Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology (ICGEB)	2021	2024

Code	Project Title	Beneficiary	Implementing organization	Start year	End year
STDF/PG/751**	Strengthening the phytosanitary and food safety system in key value chains	Haiti, Dominican Republic	Junta Agroempresarial Dominicana (JAD)	TBD	TBD
<a href="#">STDF/PG/759</a> **	Ensuring food safety capacity of the pepper value chain in Jamaica to access strategic export markets	Jamaica	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)	TBD	TBD
<a href="#">STDF/PG/798</a>	Improving pig biosecurity and African Swine Fever (ASF) control in 4 ASEAN countries	Cambodia, Laos, Philippines, Vietnam	Ecole Nationale des Services Vétérinaires - France Vétérinaire International (ENS-VFI)	2022	2025

\* No-cost extension requested and granted

\*\* In the process of contracting or still to be contracted



**Table 2: STDF PPGs (Ongoing and/or to be contracted)**

<b>Code</b>	<b>PPG Title</b>	<b>Beneficiary</b>
<a href="#">STDF/PPG/616</a>	Supporting the establishment of a bee sanctuary in Niue	Niue
<a href="#">STDF/PPG/665</a>	Piloting the use of TPA programmes to improve food safety outcomes for public health and trade in Africa	Mali, Senegal, Uganda
<a href="#">STDF/PPG/669</a>	Promote compliance with international SPS requirements in food of animal origin and feed for food-producing animals	Afghanistan
<a href="#">STDF/PPG/709</a>	Applying the P-IMA tool in Ecuador	Ecuador
<a href="#">STDF/PPG/716</a>	Food Safety Risk Analysis capacity building programme in Latin America	Colombia, Costa Rica, Honduras, Nicaragua, Panama
<a href="#">STDF/PPG/720</a>	Assessing the Establishment of a HPAI Free Compartment in Egypt	Egypt
<a href="#">STDF/PPG/721</a>	Strengthening food safety and quality compliance in select spices	Sri Lanka
<a href="#">STDF/PPG/722</a>	Piloting the use of Regulatory Impact Assessment in the agriculture and fisheries sector	Philippines
<a href="#">STDF/PPG/733</a>	Piloting the use of P-IMA in the CARICOM region	CARICOM countries
<a href="#">STDF/PPG/734</a>	Strengthening Capacity for border inspection and control of plants, animals and their products for biosecurity and food safety in Bhutan	Bhutan
<a href="#">STDF/PPG/753</a>	Latin American Residue Mitigation through the Promotion of Biopesticides	Latin America
<a href="#">STDF/PPG/755</a>	Enhancing seed trade in the Asia Pacific region through phytosanitary compliance and public private partnerships	Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar, Thailand, Vietnam
<a href="#">STDF/PPG/761</a>	Applying the P-IMA framework in Armenia to promote export of agricultural products	Armenia
<a href="#">STDF/PPG/765</a>	ISO 17025 accredited mobile laboratory for food safety testing in the SADC region	Eswatini, Lesotho, Namibia, South Africa
<a href="#">STDF/PPG/767</a>	Feasibility study on implementation of zoning as means to control infectious diseases in aquaculture in Peru	Peru

<b>Code</b>	<b>PPG Title</b>	<b>Beneficiary</b>
<a href="#">STDF/PPG/768</a>	Harmonizing the phytosanitary legislation framework in Central Africa	Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Congo, Equatorial Guinea, Gabon
<a href="#">STDF/PPG/770</a>	Post-COVID-19 voluntary food quality control in West Africa through digitisation	Benin, Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, Guinea, Guinea Bissau, Niger, Mali, Senegal, Togo
STDF/PPG/773*	SPS needs assessment for private and public actors in the Burundian horticultural sector	Burundi
<a href="#">STDF/PPG/782</a>	Remote inspection practices in food safety for improved trade	Developing countries
<a href="#">STDF/PPG/786</a>	Supporting implementation of the National Policy for Aflatoxin Control in Food and Feed in Ghana using the P-IMA framework	Ghana
<a href="#">STDF/PPG/789*</a>	Capacity building on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures to improve compliance of cross border traders in Zambia	Zambia
STDF/PPG/809*	Regional approach towards addressing invasive quarantine pests of potato in East and Southern Africa	East and Southern Africa
STDF/PPG/817*	Phytosanitary Capacity Evaluation (PCE) to improve the plant health system in Nigeria	Nigeria

\* To be contracted

\*\* Delay to contract within six-months due to COVID-19. Extension granted to contract PPG