



CONCLUDING WORKSHOP 26-27 JANUARY 2015
BISHKEK, KYRGYZ REPUBLIC

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Background

- SPS measures ensure food safety and prevent spread of plant/animal diseases.
- Poorly designed SPS measures can harm competitiveness and constrain trade.
- WTO SPS Agreement considered as international best practice.

Key Issues

- Regulatory framework for SPS in CAREC countries not consistent with international best practice.
- SPS laboratory infrastructure need to be upgraded and modernized.
- Coordination at the border between SPS agencies and customs needs to be improved.

PROJECT OBJECTIVES

Promote SPS reforms and modernization consistent with international standards.

 Identify and prioritize investment needs to modernize SPS measures and their application

PROJECT COMPONENTS AND KEY ACTIVITIES

Review of regulatory framework

- > Identify SPS regulations and procedures that contribute most to trade facilitation.
- Analyze gaps between SPS agreement (international standards) and existing regulatory framework in each country.
- > Recommend harmonization of selected regulations.

Inventory of laboratory assets

- >Assess SPS laboratory infrastructure in CAREC countries.
- Identify critical investments needed to modernize and upgrade laboratories.

Border Management Strategy

- Evaluate relations among SPS and other border agencies.
- ➤ Identify key BCPs for priority handling of goods subject to SPS control.
- Evaluate use of technology for SPS control and to link SPS agency systems with Customs.

Key Tasks

- Regulatory assessment
 - Assess if, and which, legislation and technical requirements to import food, animals and plants constitute a barrier
 - Is the type, frequency and method of control appropriate to the risk
 - If legislation and enforcement mechanisms meet international standards on paper, to what extent are they implemented/practiced

Key Tasks

- Laboratory capacity assessment
 - List of equipment and infrastructure required to ensure safety of food and health of animals and plants.
 - Determine how much of required equipment and infrastructure are in place.
 - Investment plan to upgrade SPS facilities.

Key Tasks

- SPS border services management assessment
 - Establish key elements of SPS border management strategy.
 - Assess current border control and border management regulations.
 - Recommendations for effective SPS border management strategy particularly coordination with other agencies.

Status of Implementation

- Consulting team has conducted field visits and consulted with CAREC SPS authorities.
- Questionnaires were distributed, collected and analyzed.
- Draft report
- Concluding workshop to present findings and recommendations and solicit feedback from participants
- Revision of report to integrate comments
- Final report

Next Steps

- Finalize study incorporate results of workshop and distribute to relevant agencies
- Based on the study, CAREC SPS reform agenda in place
- Identify investment needs for the CAREC "Regional Upgrades of SPS measures for Trade (RUST)" project
- Fact finding mission to initiate discussion with governments and help countries invest in their SPS facilities and reforms.

Spasibo! Thank you!