

PROMOTING COOPERATION IN SANITARY AND PHYTO-SANITARY MEASURES FOR CAREC: ADB RETA 8386 OUTPUTS AND THE CAREC COMMON AGENDA FOR SPS MODERNIZATION



**IMPLEMENTING A COMMON AGENDA FOR
MODERNIZING SANITARY AND PHYTOSANITARY MEASURES:
REVISING TURKMENISTAN'S SPS LEGISLATION AND
IDENTIFYING NEEDS TO SUPPORT ITS IMPLEMENTATION**

**29-30 JUNE 2015
ASHGABAT, TURKMENISTAN**

**JEFF PROCAK
REGIONAL COOPERATION SPECIALIST
ADB**



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.

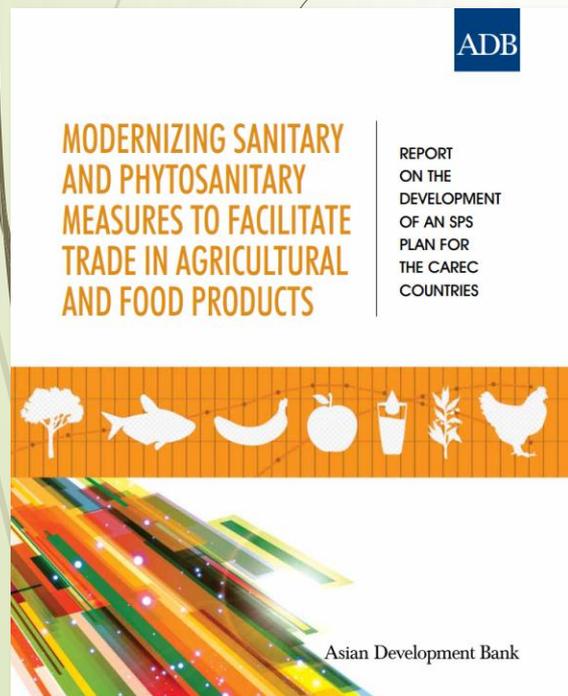


Key Issues

- ❖ **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.**

CAREC Initiating Activities

CAREC SPS Workshop (July 2012)
– focused on information exchange and initial steps to develop an SPS action plan for regional cooperation to improve SPS measures in CAREC



CAREC SPS Publication (May 2013) – highlighted key findings on country-level assessments and emerging SPS-related issues in CAREC and identified coordinated efforts and investments needed.

<http://www.adb.org/publications/modernizing-sps-measures-facilitate-trade-agricultural-and-food-products>



TA 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 and single windows.



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.**



Work Completed

- **Consulting team has conducted field visits and consulted with CAREC SPS authorities.**
- **Questionnaires 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 delivered**
- **CAREC Common Agenda for SPS Modernization drafted**



Common Agenda for SPS Modernization

- **Harmonization**
- **Eliminate non-tariff barriers to trade**
- **Expand market access**
- **Guide and support SPS modernization**



Work Underway

- **“Regional Upgrades of SPS measures for Trade (RUST)” project being designed for Mongolia**
- **Dialogue initiated with other CAREC countries and development partners to respond to requests for assistance in designing and implementing reforms and investing in SPS facilities.**



Next Steps

- CAREC to adopt and begin to implement Common Agenda
- SPS agencies in CAREC countries to develop SPS modernization strategies and discuss their implementation needs (investment and technical assistance) with Ministries of Finance
- Development partners to coordinate responses to demand for assistance



Тешекюлер!

Рахмет!

Спасибо!

Thank you!