

## **Revitalizing national SPS committees and regional consultation in prioritizing SPS matters, Ouagadougou, 5-7 July 2017**

### **Justification**

1. The USAID/West Africa Regional Mission works to support the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) to advance their vision to create an economic union and common market. In line with this objective ECOWAS is implementing a number of agreements designed to support the free movement of goods and people throughout the region. In the area of standards, a USAID/West Africa: Cost Reimbursement Implementation Letter no 2 was signed between CILSS and USAID/West Africa. It is through this agreement focus will be on Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) standards.

2. With reference to the approved 2017 work plan and in view of strengthening national food safety and quality system in-country SPS committees were created through the support of previous projects including the PanAfrican Standards Setting project led by AU-IBAR with the support of European Union.

3. It was observed that these national SPS committees were not active/nonfunctional especially in the ECOWAS Member States. This situation was the results of various conditions and challenges encountered by Member States. These challenges are not well known. Further, solutions to address them are not yet proposed.

4. Therefore it is important to convene regional SPS and stakeholders meeting to review status of country SPS committees, update on progress made since creation, challenges encountered, perspectives for moving forward and creation of regional SPS committee's network for advancing SPS matters in the region with the view of boosting intra-regional and international trade.

### **The Objectives**

5. Objectives of these missions are:

- to review current status of national SPS committee in the ECOWAS region,
- to document progress and challenges faced national SPS committees
- to proposed sustainable solutions to overcome identified challenges
- to create platform for sensitizing stakeholders on regional SPS matters
- to empower national SPS committee to implement SPS policy and regulation
- to discuss and endorse common position of SPS matters relevant to the region to be discussed at international fora.

### **Workshop outcomes**

6. At the end of this workshop, the following outcomes expected are:

- a comprehensive progress made and success stories (if any) shared
- a comprehensive challenges face Member States documented along with feasible and sustainable solutions proposed



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- a network of actors with the engagement of private sector and SMEs created/strengthened
- a regional SPS matters priorities identified
- national SPS committee revitalized
- common position on SPS matters relevant to the region proposed for discussion at international fora adopted
- a platform for sensitizing/lobbying key government officials created

### Workshop Participants

7. With the support of USAID West Africa Regional Mission, the ECOWAS Commission is inviting the following key players on SPS matters:

- ECOWAS (6),
- USAID (3)
- SMEs (3)
- UEMOA (1)
- Hub Rural (1)
- FAO-regional office (1)
- WHO-regional office (1)
- AU-IBAR (1)
- PACA/AUC (1)
- BMGF (1)
- COLEACP (1)
- CILSS (2),
- WAHO (1)
- CORAF (1),
- IFDC (1)
- Feed The Future (1)
- National SPS committee Contact point or representative (1 per country = 15)
- Regional SPS/codex experts (3)
- Resource persons (5)

### Workshop date and venue

**Venue: OUAGADOUGOU (BURKINA FASO)**

**Proposed date: 05-07 July 2017**

**HOTEL: .....**

As for logistics, ground transportation, hotel reservation, DSA and other arrangements, CILSS will facilitate by ensuring smoothly implementation. It is important to note that simultaneous interpretation service in 3 languages including French, English and Portuguese should be provided.

For information, please contact

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USDA and USAID Region

**Provisional Agenda**

Day 1: 05 July 2017		
Time	Item	Facilitator (s)
8:30 – 9:00	Registration	Organizing committee and all participants
9:15 – 10:30	<p><b>Opening ceremony</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Welcome remarks: Commissioner Industry and Private Sector Promotion or Commissioner Agriculture, Environment and Water Resources or Director Agriculture &amp; Rural Development (ECOWAS)</li> <li>• Opening remarks of the Representative of USAID Regional Mission, Accra Ghana</li> <li>• Opening remarks of Ministry of Agriculture/Representative (host country)</li> </ul>	ECOWAS representatives
10:30 – 11:00	<p><b>Overview of the workshop</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Information on the ECOWAS-USAID SPS programme</li> <li>• Discussion on the objectives, expectation of participants and benefits of partnerships</li> <li>• Adoption of agenda</li> </ul>	ECOWAS and USAID representatives
11:00 – 11:30	<b>Group photo and Coffee/tea break</b>	
<b>Plenary presentation of status of national Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) committees</b>		
11:30 – 13:00	<p>Inform participants of the newly established ECOWAS SPS Committee and its mandates (Before country presentation)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Current status and challenges of National SPS Committee of Benin Republic</li> <li>• Current status and challenges of National SPS Committee of Burkina-Faso</li> <li>• Current status and challenges of National SPS Committee of Cabo Verde Republic</li> <li>• Current status and challenges of National SPS Committee of Cote d'Ivoire</li> <li>• Current status and challenges of National SPS Committee of Gambia</li> </ul> <p>Discussion</p>	<p>ECOWAS representative</p> <p>ECOWAS representative/facilitator/Participants</p>



13:00 – 14:15	<b>LUNCH</b>	
14:30 – 16:00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Current status and challenges of National SPS Committee of Ghana</li> <li>• Current status and challenges of National SPS Committee of Guinea (Conakry)</li> <li>• Current status and challenges of National SPS Committee of Guinea Bissau</li> <li>• Current status and challenges of National SPS Committee of Liberia</li> <li>• Current status and challenges of National SPS Committee of Mali</li> <li>• Current status and challenges of National SPS Committee of Niger</li> </ul> <p>Discussion</p>	ECOWAS representative/facilitator/Participants
16:00 – 16:30	<b>Coffee/tea break</b>	
16:30 – 17:30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Current status and challenges of National SPS Committee of Nigeria</li> <li>• Current status and challenges of National SPS Committee of Senegal</li> <li>• Current status and challenges of National SPS Committee of Sierra Leone</li> <li>• Current status and challenges of National SPS Committee of Togo</li> <li>• Presentation: Private sector and SMEs in the food sector: Opportunities for regional and international trade by the mean of SPS standards</li> </ul> <p>Discussion</p>	ECOWAS representative/facilitator/Participants  Invited resource person/ECOWAS representative
17:30 – 17:45	Groups formations	Participants
17:45 -	<b>END DAY 1</b>	



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**Day 2: 06 July 2017**

<b>Time</b>	<b>Item</b>	<b>Facilitator (s)</b>
8:30 – 9:00	Recap of day 1	ECOWAS representative
9:00 – 13:00	Group discussions and coffee/tea break (participants are allowed to have coffee in the meeting room while discussing)	ECOWAS representatives/participants
13:00 – 14:30	<b>LUNCH</b>	
14:30 – 16:30	Plenary report of groups discussions outcomes: road map (financing, coordination mechanisms) for countries	Participants
16:30 – 16:45	<b>COFFEE/TEA BREAK</b>	
16:45 – 17:30	Recommendations	Participants
17:30 -	<b>END DAY 2</b>	



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**Day 3: 07 July 2017**

<b>Time</b>	<b>Item</b>	<b>Facilitator (s)</b>
8:30 – 9:00	Recap of day 2	ECOWAS representative
9:00 – 13:00	<b>Plenary discussion</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Common position on SPS matters pertaining to the region: Regional Standards to be discussed at the International standards setting bodies.</li><li>• Road map and prioritization of SPS matters</li></ul>	ECOWAS representative/Participants
13:00 – 14:30	<b>LUNCH</b>	
14:30 – 15:30	<b>Plenary discussion</b> Coordination mechanism and sustainable financing of national SPS committees	Participants
15:30 – 16:30	Conclusions and Closure ceremony	Participants