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World Health Organization

CODEX TRUST FUND

YEAR IN REVIEW 2018

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CONTENTS

1. INTRODUCTION 01

2. HIGHLIGHTS OF COUNTRY PROGRESS 02

ROUND 1 03

GHANA

KYRGYZSTAN

MADAGASCAR

SENEGAL

ROUND 2 20

BHUTAN, INDIA AND NEPAL

BURKINA FASO

CABO VERDE

GUINEA

HONDURAS

MALI

NORTH MACEDONIA

RWANDA

3. LESSONS LEARNED 41

4. FINANCIAL REPORTING 45

APPENDIX 46

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HOW TO BROWSE THE DOCUMENT

Interactive bread crumbs on the top of the page to navigate the document

> CONTENTS > HIGHLIGHTS OF COUNTRY PROGRESS > ROUND 1

Internal and external link in text

...please refer to **appendix 1** of this document...

Interactive buttons to the country pages from ROUND opening section page

GHANA
KYRGYZSTAN
MADAGASCAR
SENEGAL

Interactive button for external link

Country Projects on www.fao.org

External link to TIMELINE materials

go to the photo gallery
go to the video
go to the pdf

ACRONYMS

CCP	Codex Contact Point
CTF	Codex Trust Fund
NCC	National Codex Committee
SPS	Sanitary and Phyto-Sanitary
TBT	Technical Barriers to Trade
TFP	Technical and Financial Partner
ToR	Terms of Reference
WTO	World Trade Organization

1. INTRODUCTION

This document is a review of the successes and milestones achieved by the new Codex Trust Fund (CTF2) and its recipients in 2018.

The CTF2 supports developing and transition economy countries to participate fully and effectively in Codex. Applications from eligible countries or groups of countries are assessed through an objective, fair and transparent process and successful applications receive support for up to three years. At the end of 2018, three application rounds had taken place. For a full list of countries eligible to apply to the fund, please refer to **Appendix** of this document, which includes information on which countries have successfully applied for support.

This year, 2018, was the third year of CTF2 activities and one that confirmed the value of CTF2 work, as supported countries worked hard towards the outputs targeted by their projects and gained capacity and confidence to contribute to Codex discussions and decision-making at both committee and commission levels.

This review is divided into 4 sections.

Firstly, it summarises the work of the four Round 1 CTF2 recipients, **Ghana**, **Kyrgyzstan**, **Madagascar** and **Senegal** , with background information on the context in which these countries applied for support, the approved plan they devised to address the challenges identified, and a summary of the progress they made in 2018, with reference to the planned timeline of their projects.

This is followed by a brief breakdown of the planned activities of the Round 2 countries, which were accepted for support by the Codex Trust Fund Steering Committee in the first quarter of 2018. The breakdown includes information on the status of Codex activities in each respective country, the plan to address the priority weaknesses identified and, in the case of those that have started implementation, details of progress made. The Round 2 recipient countries are: **Cabo Verde**, **Burkina Faso**, **North Macedonia**, **Guinea**, **Honduras**, **Mali** and **Rwanda**. There was one successful application by a group, which comprises **Bhutan, India and Nepal**.

With each country's achievements and successes, as well as any challenges and delays, the Codex Trust Fund, FAO, WHO and the Codex Secretariat are learning lessons about how to support countries, the most effective activities countries can plan for and how to mitigate or anticipate problems that may arise. With this expanding body of knowledge, the third section of this review is dedicated to a new and growing **Lessons Learned Library** which includes the insights to which future applicant countries can be directed as they plan their CTF2 projects.

The final section of the review lays out the **Financial reporting** situation of the CTF2 as of the end of 2018.

Further information about the Codex Alimentarius can be found **here** and more information on the Codex Trust Fund is available on **our webpages**.

2. HIGHLIGHTS OF COUNTRY PROGRESS

Countries in receipt of CTF funding have worked hard to implement their planned projects. The following pages detail the aims of the projects and summarize the planned activities. This information is displayed in a timeline that highlights the activities envisaged for 2018. Where possible, the items on the timeline link to outputs such as reports, articles, videos or photographs which feature events or workshops held.

ROUND 1
ROUND 2

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ROUND 1

The four countries included in Round 1 started their projects in 2016 so by 2018, work was well under way. All four countries had completed a significant number of activities at this stage, or completed them during the year. The outputs provided are all in their country's official language: Ghana's outputs are in English; Kyrgyzstan's outputs are in English and Russian; and Senegal and Madagascar have produced their outputs in French.

- GHANA
- KYRGYZSTAN
- MADAGASCAR
- SENEGAL

Country Projects on www.fao.org

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GHANA

PROJECT COST: **US$ 156 000**
CTF FUNDING: **US$ 150 000***

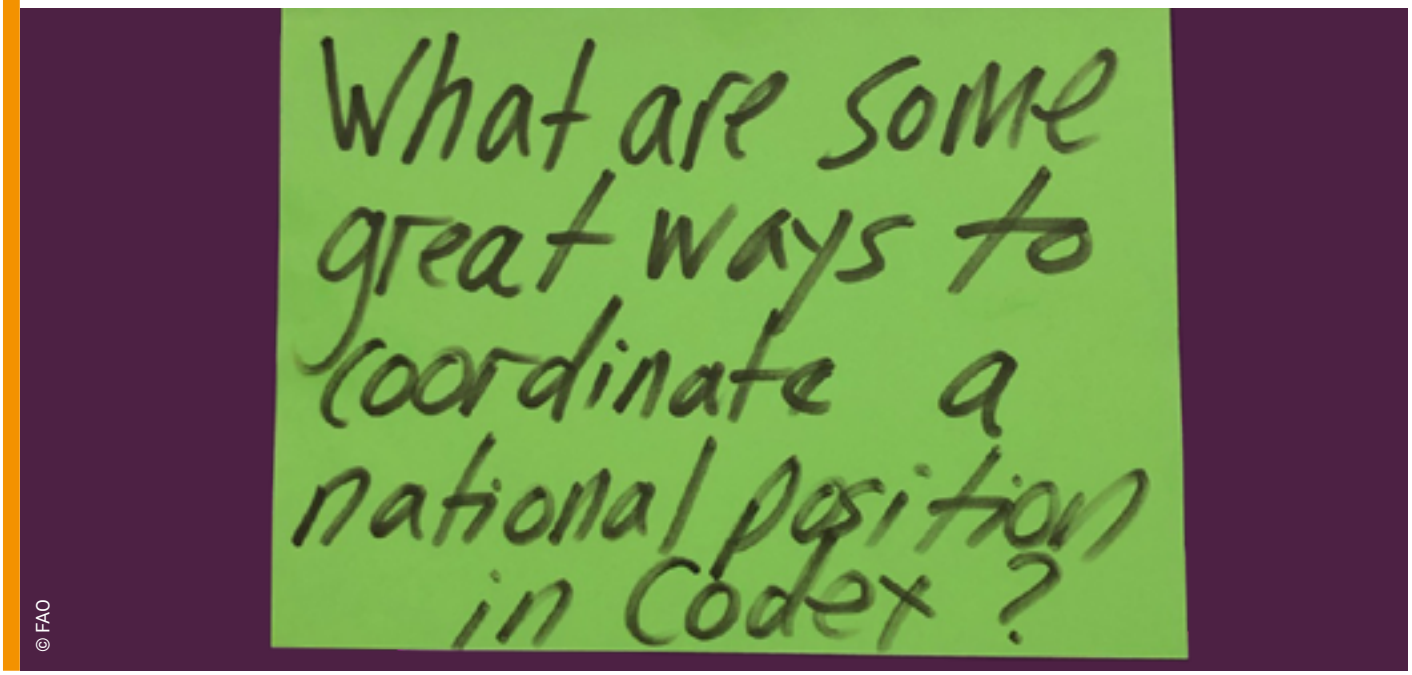
*Based on information made available by the CCP, May 2019

CONTEXT

Ghana has been a Codex member since 1966 and has twice assumed the role of regional coordinator of CCAFRICA, the Codex Committee for Africa (1974-1976 and 2007-9). Despite this, the National Codex Committee (NCC) has found it difficult to impact sustainably on national-level food and health policy-making and capacity. Public awareness about the importance of Codex work is extremely limited.

Ghana applied to the CTF for funding to help them address these issues. Through the **Codex Diagnostic Tool** Ghana identified the following priority weaknesses in their national Codex structures:

- inadequate financial resources were being made available to carry out core functions and responsibilities of the CCP;
- a lack of clearly defined consultation mechanisms and processes to facilitate active engagement of all stakeholder groups and national experts;
- limited range of stakeholders used for national Codex consultations and activities;
- guidelines for development and submission of written comments existed only in draft form.



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ACTIVITIES AND OUTPUTS

The following activities and outputs were devised to address the priority weaknesses:

1. **POLITICAL AND FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR CODEX GHANA ACTIVITIES TO BE SECURED FROM POLICY AND DECISION MAKERS**
   - **1.1** Develop communications materials
   - **1.2** Conduct stakeholder consultations
2. **PROMOTE NATIONAL-LEVEL KNOWLEDGE AND UNDERSTANDING OF TECHNICAL CODEX ISSUES. IMPROVE COMPETENCIES IN PROCEDURAL ASPECTS OF CODEX PARTICIPATION**
   - **2.1** Improve understanding of Codex issues and procedures
   - **2.2** Organize training on negotiation and facilitation skills in support of Codex discussions at national and international levels
   - **2.3** Develop Codex Ghana website
3. **NATIONAL STRUCTURES AND PROCESSES FOR MANAGING CODEX ACTIVITIES AT THE NATIONAL LEVEL STRENGTHENED TO SUPPORT PARTICIPATION IN CODEX SESSIONS**
   - **3.1** Develop Codex Ghana procedural manual
   - **3.2** Develop and implement “twinning programme”
4. **IMPROVE SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL CAPACITY OF NATIONAL EXPERTS TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE SCIENTIFIC BASIS OF CODEX**
   - **4.1** Training on sampling and analysis
   - **4.2** Generation of data on inorganic arsenic (iAs) in husked rice to support revision of ML for iAs in husked rice
   - **4.3** Generation of data on methylmercury in fish (tuna)
   - **4.4** Develop understanding of issues related to antimicrobial resistance (AMR)

TIMELINE GHANA

BY END OF APRIL 2017	**Activity 1.1:** COMPLETED
	Activity 1.2: Steps towards stakeholder consultations
	Activity 2.1: Training plan in place
	Activity 2.3: Task Force in place for website planning
	Activity 3.1: Procedural manual progressed
	Activity 3.2: Twinning programme agreed
BY END OF SEPTEMBER 2017	**Activity 1.2:** Technical subcommittees of NCC established
	Activity 2.3: COMPLETED
	Activity 3.1: COMPLETED
	Activity 4.1: Training implemented
	Activity 4.2 and 4.3: Contracts with laboratories signed
	Activity 4.4: Participated in Ad hoc Task Force on AMR
BY END OF MARCH 2018	**Activity 1.2:** Journalist training
	Activity 2.1: COMPLETED
	Activity 3.2: 2018/19 programme agreed
BY END OF SEPTEMBER 2018	**Activity 2.2:** COMPLETED
	Activity 2.3: Website developer hired
BY END OF MARCH 2019	**Activity 2.3:** Website to be COMPLETED
BY END OF AUGUST 2019	Activity 3.2
BY END OF NOVEMBER 2019	All remaining activities to be COMPLETED
	Final report

PDF 1 go to the pdf
PDF 2 go to the pdf
PDF 3 go to the pdf
PDF 4 go to the pdf
go to the video
PDF go to the pdf

BY END 2018

FAST FACTS GHANA

32
MEMBERS OF GHANA'S NCC AND TECHNICAL EXPERTS
were trained in:
> Generation of credible scientific data to support the work of the Codex Expert Committees;
> Rules and functioning of Codex Alimentarius;
> Understanding of the new procedural manual of Codex Ghana and how to improve commitment of the NCC and subcommittee members;
> Development and representation of a national position.

4
CONFERENCE CALLS
were organized between Codex Ghana and twinning countries: Canada, Netherlands, and USA.

2
PARTICIPANTS
from the Ghana delegation to the 12th session of Codex Committee on Contaminants benefited from peer learning on contaminants issues with the Netherlands.

10
TECHNICAL STAFF
from Ghana Standards Authority (GSA) and the Ghanaian Food and Drugs Authority (FDA) were trained on sampling and elementary analysis for methylmercury and inorganic arsenic.

100
TUNA FISH SAMPLES
were collected and analysed.

100
RICE SAMPLES
were collected and analysed.

35
MEMBERS OF CODEX
were trained on:
> Negotiation skills;
> Effective communication skills;
> How to plan and prepare for negotiation;
> Managing emotions during negotiation;
> Reaching an agreement.

20
JOURNALISTS from
14
MEDIA HOUSES
were trained to better understand Codex and Codex activities.

2 BROCHURES
2 BANNERS
4 LEAFLETS
3 POSTERS
were produced.

2
MEETINGS
of the newly formed national Codex Task Force for AMR were held.

GHANA TAKEAWAYS

"Journalists play a key role in conveying information to the wider society. To ensure that this information is accurate, journalists should be trained on food safety and Codex activities."

"The single most beneficial activity? The 'twinning': the Netherlands team helped us see different ways of doing things and helped us generate a lot of ideas around the website. It was great to be able to discuss issues with a team that saw things from such a different perspective." – *NCC Ghana*

KYRGYZSTAN

PROJECT COST: **US$ 149 986**
CTF FUNDING: **US$ 149 986**

CONTEXT

Following the breakup of the Soviet Union in 1991, recommendations to the newly independent state of Kyrgyzstan from organizations such as FAO and WHO included strengthening the then weak food laws, with reference to Codex Alimentarius. Kyrgyzstan joined Codex in 2002. Food standards legislation became a greater priority in 2015 when Kyrgyzstan joined the European Economic Union, which has stringent food control laws. It was at that point that the Kyrgyz state requested support from the CTF.

Through the **Codex Diagnostic Tool** Kyrgyzstan identified the following priority weaknesses in their national Codex structures:

- Lack of political awareness;
- Absence of procedural documentation;
- Poor technical capacity and knowledge among ministry specialists and CCP.

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ACTIVITIES AND OUTPUTS

The following activities and outputs were devised to address the priority weaknesses:

1. POLITICAL AND FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR CODEX IN KEY SECTORS

- **1.1** Develop communications materials
- **1.2** Conduct national advocacy event
- **1.3** Annual national Codex seminars 2017, 2018, 2019

2. ESTABLISH FUNCTIONING NATIONAL CODEX STRUCTURES

- **2.1** Develop national procedural documentation for Codex activities within Kyrgyzstan
- **2.2** Review Kyrgyz legislative base for compliance with international Codex standards
- **2.3** Study tour and mentoring in Netherlands to establish Kyrgyz multisectoral approach
- **2.4** Follow up of 2.3 with private sector and ministries to establish next steps
- **2.5** Two Kyrgyz delegates to attend two top priority Codex committees in each of 2017, 2018, 2019
- **2.6** Receive mentoring from the Netherlands on attendance at top priority Codex committees

3. DEVELOPMENT OF NEW NATIONAL STANDARDS BASED ON CODEX STANDARDS

- **3.1** Develop and gain approval of new national standards with review of WHO/FAO specialists

TIMELINE KYRGYZSTAN

BY END OF DECEMBER 2017	**Activity 1.1:** Information products produced COMPLETED	go to the pdf
	Activity 1.2: On November 28, 2017 workshop for members of Parliament and high-level government employees	go to the photo gallery
	Activity 2.1: Regulation on the Interdepartmental Codex Commission	go to the pdf
	Activity 2.3: COMPLETED	go to the photo gallery
	Activity 2.4: STARTED	
	Activity 2.5: Kyrgyz specialists attended CCFICS23, CAC40	
	Activity 3.1: One working group met on 17th August and the other on the 30th November 2017	
BY END OF JUNE 2018	**Activity 1.2:** Events with WHO in Naryn & Cholpon	go to the web link
	Activity 1.2: High Level National Seminar June 7-11	go to the web link
	Activity 1.3: 2018 phase - Information seminar in Osh	go to the web link
	Activity 2.2: COMPLETED	go to the pdf
	Activity 2.5: Kyrgyz delegates attended CAC41	go to the web link
BY END OF DECEMBER 2018	**Activity 2.1:** 2018 Amended legislation	go to the pdf
	Activity 3.1: COMPLETED	go to the web link
BY END OF JUNE 2019	**Activity 1.1:** 2019	
	Activity 1.2: 2019	
	Activity 1.3: 1st half 2019	
	Activity 1.2: to be COMPLETED	
BY END OF DECEMBER 2019	**Activity 1.1:** 2nd half 2019	
	Activity 2.6: to be COMPLETED	
	Activity 3.1: to be COMPLETED	

BY END 2018

FAST FACTS KYRGYZSTAN

5
EXPERTS
from the Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Health and Center for Standardization and Metrology took part in a study tour to the Netherlands, 5 to 10 November 2017.

June 2018, on the request of the Ministry of Agriculture, the Centre for Standardization and Metrology adopted
35
CODEX STANDARDS
in Kyrgyzstan.

10
NATIONAL STANDARDS
for competitive products harmonized with Codex Alimentarius standards, developed and approved.

A total of
9
EVENTS
organized around the country to raise awareness about Codex.

14
DELEGATES
attended and contributed to top-level Codex committees.

Information seminars held in
3
REGIONS
of Kyrgyzstan: Cholpon-Ata, Naryn and Osh.

KYRGYZSTAN TAKEAWAYS

"To improve the efficiency and functioning of the National Codex Committee, it was transformed into an interagency commission with responsibilities shared among the Ministries of Agriculture, Health and the Environment."

"Awareness-raising events and personal contact are effective ways to secure support for Codex activities with high level policy and decision-makers."

MADAGASCAR

PROJECT COST: **US$ 164 243**
CTF FUNDING: **US$ 150 011**

CONTEXT

Madagascar has been a Codex member since 1966. However, participation in Codex committees and activities has always been low level and there is low engagement with or understanding of Codex within Madagascar from the policy level down to the consumers. Madagascar produces high-value products for export and needs to ensure the agro-export sector is fully compliant.

Through the **Codex Diagnostic Tool** Madagascar identified the following priority weaknesses in their national Codex structures:

- Work of NCC, CCP and competent authorities disorganized and uncoordinated, ineffective inter-ministerial collaboration;
- Low stakeholder engagement due to poor understanding of Codex, poor NCC communication skills and weak links to experts and scientists;
- No national Codex guidance document or clear procedures and obsolete or out-of-date national standards.

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ACTIVITIES AND OUTPUTS

The following activities and outputs were devised to address the priority weaknesses:

1. PROJECT VALIDATION

1.1 Launch project

1.2 Evaluate capacity-building obtained through activity 1.1

2. FUNCTIONING NATIONAL CODEX STRUCTURES

2.1 Build capacity of NCC members

2.2 Build capacity of CCP

2.3 Develop 3-year workplan and monitoring system of Codex outputs

2.4 Create database of scientific experts relevant to priority committees identified in 2.2 and 2.3

2.5 Train to implement a procedure for the adoption or adaptation of Codex texts

2.6 Participate in a priority committee: CCSCH

2.7 Organize a south-south study exchange trip to India

2.8 Organize mentoring from an exchange-country expert in relation to 2.6

3. COMMUNICATIONS

3.1 Develop core communications materials

3.2 Organize awareness-raising sessions on consumer protection and trade facilitation in relation to Codex

3.3 Participate in different national and international festival days: World Health Day; World Food Day; Fier-Mada etc

3.4 Develop national Codex website

3.5 Monitoring and Evaluation of all activities

TIMELINE MADAGASCAR

BY END OF MARCH 2017	**Activity 1.1:** COMPLETED
BY END OF JUNE 2017	**Activity 2.1:** COMPLETED
	Activity 2.2: COMPLETED
	Activity 2.5: COMPLETED
	Activity 3.4: Website hosting organized
BY END OF DECEMBER 2017	**Activity 1.2:** 2017 Evaluation meeting
	Activity 2.3: Validation workshop
	Activity 2.4: COMPLETED
	Activity 3.1: Products produced
	Activity 3.2: Various Awareness-raising workshops
	Activity 3.3: August 3-5 – International fair of rural economy
	Activity 3.3: August 23-25 – Boeny Mionjo Fair
	Activity 3.3: September 14-17 – International Ag Fair
	Activity 3.4: COMPLETED
BY END OF SEPTEMBER 2018	**Activity 2.4:** Workshop for database of experts
	Activity 2.5: July - Training workshop
	Activity 2.6: Delayed and priority committee changed to CCPR - COMPLETED
	Activity 2.7: COMPLETED
	Activity 3.2: Various Awareness-raising workshops
	Activity 3.3: June 1-7 International Food Safety day/week
	Activity 3.5: 2018 Review COMPLETED
BY END OF DECEMBER 2019	**Activity 1.2:** to be COMPLETED
	Activity 2.8: to be COMPLETED
	Activity 3.2: to be COMPLETED
	Activity 3.3: to be COMPLETED
	Activity 3.5: to be COMPLETED

go to the pdf

go to the web link

BY END 2018

FAST FACTS MADAGASCAR

Codex Mada participated in

6
NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL DAYS.

6
WORKSHOPS AND TRAINING EVENTS
were organized.

3
GENERAL MEETINGS
and
8
MEETINGS
of the Monitoring and Supervision Committee took place.

MADAGASCAR TAKEAWAYS

"It is important to explain the relevance of Codex to producers and exporters of key products."

SENEGAL

PROJECT COST: **US$ 232 350**
CTF FUNDING: **US$ 150 000**

CONTEXT

Senegal has been a Codex member since 1966 and assumed the role of regional coordinator in 1978-9 and vice-chair of the CAC in 1974 and 1989. However, by the 1990s, the national food safety structures had become weak and ineffective. The Senegalese applied to the CTF for funding and support as part of a government drive to improve Codex structures and food safety at home, to boost Senegal's role in international standards setting and to increase the competitiveness of Senegal's trade in foodstuffs.

Through the **Codex Diagnostic Tool** Senegal identified the following priority weaknesses in their national Codex structures:

- Secretariat and NCC lack organizational structure and capacities;
- Absence of political engagement regarding Codex.

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ACTIVITIES AND OUTPUTS

The following activities and outputs were devised to address the priority weaknesses:

1. NATIONAL CODEX ALIMENTARIUS AWARENESS PROGRAMME

1.1 Develop communications materials

1.2 Conduct a national awareness campaign on the roles and responsibilities of stakeholders within Codex work

2. STRENGTHEN THE GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT SYSTEM OF THE NATIONAL CODEX ALIMENTARIUS COMMITTEE (NCC)

2.1 Monitor the adoption and dissemination of the draft decree on the reorganization and operation of the NCC

2.2 Develop documentation relating to Codex management

2.3 Coordinate and monitor the activities of the NCC

3. NCC STAKEHOLDER CAPACITY BUILDING

3.1 Train Codex Members and the secretariat on the Commission's procedural guidelines and the FAO/WHO Codex training package

3.2 Enhance the capacities of NCC scientific expert groups and laboratories to effectively participate in and contribute to the work of priority committees and FAO/WHO joint expert bodies

3.3 Support participation in the work of the CAC and its subsidiary bodies (participation of 2 delegates in meetings of CAC, CCAFRICA, CCFH, CCCF, CCPR)

3.4 Evaluate the work of priority committees

4. SUPPORT FOR UPDATING NATIONAL REGULATIONS, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE SPS AND TBT AGREEMENTS

4.1 Contribute to the development and wider dissemination of standards in the local fisheries, peanuts processing and cereals sectors

4.2 Facilitate compliance with Codex standards by professionals in the fisheries, peanut processing and local cereals sectors

TIMELINE SENEGAL

	Watch the video from the NCC in Senegal	go to the video
BY END OF JUNE 2017	**Activity 1.1:** COMPLETED	go to the photo gallery
	Activity 1.2: March 16th, 2017 – National Awareness Forum, Dakar	go to the photo gallery
	Activity 2.1: Amendment of Decree No. 83-1024 of November 24, 1983 'on track' to reorganize and update role of NCC	
	Activity 2.2: COMPLETED	go to the pdf
	Activity 2.3: Coordination meeting, June 2017	go to the pdf
	Activity 3.3: Senegalese delegates participated in: CAC41, CCCF11, CCPR49	go to the photo gallery
BY END OF DECEMBER 2017	**Activity 3.1:** COMPLETED	go to the pdf
	Activity 2.3: Validation workshop	
	Activity 3.2: Training of experts on data generation 2x workshops	
	Activity 3.3: Participation in priority committees	go to the pdf 1 / go to the pdf 2
BY END OF DECEMBER 2018	**Activity 1.2:** Deferred to 2019	
	Activity 2.3:	
	Activity 3.2: now to be completed in Phase IV	
	Activity 3.3: now to be completed in Phase IV	go to the pdf 1 / go to the pdf 2
	Activity 4.1: Dissemination of standards reports	
	Activity 4.2: Training event for supply chain actors	
BY END OF SEPTEMBER 2019	**Activity 1.2:** to be COMPLETED	
	Activity 2.3: to be COMPLETED	
	Activity 3.2: to be COMPLETED	
	Activity 3.3: to be COMPLETED	
	Activity 3.4: to be COMPLETED	
	Activity 4.1: to be COMPLETED	
	Activity 4.2: to be COMPLETED	

BY END 2018

FAST FACTS SENEGAL

3
POSTERS
designed to communicate messages on the relevance and importance of Codex

1
LEAFLET
on the role of the NCC

1
BROCHURE
to raise awareness at the policy level

1
7-13-MINUTE VIDEO
prepared.

Senegal now has a national directory of
150
AGRI-FOOD STANDARDS

15
KAKEMONOS
produced, including
11
kakemonos relating to the missions of the priority technical committees selected in Senegal and
4
on the importance of Codex, concerning the competitiveness of products and the health of the population

60
PEOPLE
representing various sectors, ministries and government departments concerned with food safety and nutrition participated in National Awareness Forum in Dakar, March 16th, 2017

42
PEOPLE
people from across all sectors both public and private, attended the workshop in Dakar, April 2018. Delegates trained on:
> Identifying relevant standards;
> How to plan and prepare for negotiation;
> Negotiation skills;
> Understanding Codex procedures;
> Understanding risk analysis;
> Understanding how to develop a national position.

81
SENEGALESE DELEGATES
attended
17
DIFFERENT COMMISSION
and subsidiary committees in the period to end 2018

SENEGAL TAKEAWAYS

"Effectively increase NCC understanding of how Codex works through a mock simulation of a Codex meeting."

"Engage members of the private sector to participate in codex sessions for a better understanding of the issues." – *NCC Senegal*

"Consumer associations play an important role in advocating with the authorities because they represent pressure groups. Codex officials can work with them to raise awareness among the authorities." – *NCC Senegal*

ROUND 2

Not all of the Round 2 countries had started implementing their projects by the time of this review.

Burkina Faso, Guinea, Honduras and the group project comprising Bhutan, India and Nepal, had all got their projects under way by 2018 and where available, the timeline for their projects provides links to some outputs. Again, outputs are in official languages: French for Burkina Faso and Guinea; Spanish for Honduras.

The remaining countries: Cabo Verde, Mali, North Macedonia and Rwanda were still preparing their implementation during 2018 and their activities will be reported in the 2019 review.

- BHUTAN, INDIA AND NEPAL
- BURKINA FASO
- CABO VERDE
- GUINEA
- HONDURAS
- MALI
- NORTH MACEDONIA
- RWANDA

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BHUTAN, INDIA AND NEPAL

PROJECT COST: **US$ 464 120**
CTF FUNDING: **US$ 344 450**

CONTEXT

go to the video

Bhutan, India and Nepal have come together to pool resources and knowledge on food safety generally and Codex particularly. Working together at this subregional level will mean that: Bhutan, a Codex member since 1999, can look to India and Nepal for support, build trade capacities and reinforce Codex awareness internally; Nepal, Codex member since 1974 and keen to embrace Codex as a tool for driving forward much of their work on the SDGs, can reinforce the food safety work they have already done and; India, the lead country in this application, Codex member since 1964, former CAC chair (2008-2011) and coordinator of CCASIA (1979-81 and 2015-2020) joins both those countries to form a strong subregional voice within CAC and build regional-level trade.

The Bhutan, India and Nepal group of countries applied to the CTF for funding to help them address specific issues. Through the **Codex Diagnostic Tool** the group identified the following priority weaknesses in their respective national Codex structures:

> **BHUTAN**
Codex Bhutan Secretariat lacks technical capacity; limited awareness and knowledge of Codex work among policy-makers, decision-makers and experts from relevant agencies; limited capacity of Bhutan to actively engage in international standards-setting process; limited technical capacity in testing and quality assurance and assessment;

> **INDIA**
Lack of adequate inputs from stakeholders; limited awareness among stakeholders and decision-makers, including understanding of international agreements such as the WTO SPS and TBT Agreements and relevance to Codex; lack of knowledge and expertise in the field of risk analysis; lack of access to scientific data and lack of data management and its integration at national level in support of standards development;

> **NEPAL**
Lack of clearly defined ToRs for CCP and no working procedures for management of Codex work; inadequate awareness on importance of Codex work among relevant stakeholders and policy-makers; inadequate technical capacity to develop national food standards and harmonize with Codex standards; inadequate technical capacity in generating and managing scientific data.

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17 countries meet in India for Codex online tools workshop - 2018

ACTIVITIES AND OUTPUTS

The following activities and outputs were devised to address the priority weaknesses:

1. **STRENGTHENED FUNCTIONING OF CODEX STRUCTURES IN BHUTAN AND NEPAL THROUGH EFFECTIVE ENGAGEMENT IN CODEX ACTIVITIES AND STANDARDS-SETTING PROCESSES**

   1.1 Increase knowledge and awareness about management of Codex work, implementation of Codex procedural manual and the standards-setting process

   1.2 Increase recognition and support for Codex work and activities from high level policy-makers

   1.3 Increase capacity of stakeholders, including the private sector, to actively engage in international standards-setting processes

2. **DEVELOP EXPERTISE IN RISK ASSESSMENT AND ASSESSMENT OF SCIENTIFIC DATA, ITS MANAGEMENT AND INTEGRATION AT NATIONAL LEVEL IN SUPPORT OF CODEX STANDARDS**

   2.1 Increase expertise and knowledge in the area of risk analysis

   2.2 Enhance technical capacity in generating and managing scientific data and information for technical comments on draft Codex standards

3. **STRENGTHEN UNDERSTANDING AMONG CCPs IN THE THREE PARTICIPATING COUNTRIES, AND INTER-COUNTRY CODEX COLLABORATIONS INCLUDING COMMON POSITIONS IN THE INTERNATIONAL CONTEXT**

   3.1. Increase mutual understanding and trust among CCPs through sub-regional meetings/workshops

BURKINA FASO

PROJECT COST: **US$ 184 466**
CTF FUNDING: **US$ 149 716**

CONTEXT

Burkina Faso has been a Codex member since 2002. With the recognition that food safety needs to be prioritized in the country for the sake of the general population and to improve the standard of export goods, the NCC requested help from the CTF to improve Codex structures in-country.

Through the **Codex Diagnostic Tool** Burkina Faso identified the following priority weaknesses in their national Codex structures:

- The NCC is poorly equipped with inadequate skills and no financial autonomy, has no procedures or internal regulations and has no clear working procedures with external stakeholders; technical subcommittees do not function effectively;
- On a national level, there is no official food safety document, both policy-makers and public are poorly informed on food safety and Codex, links between national food control systems and NCC remain weak.

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ACTIVITIES AND OUTPUTS

The following activities and outputs were devised to address the priority weaknesses:

1. AWARENESS-RAISING ABOUT CODEX AT A POLICY LEVEL

1.1 Project launch

1.2 Develop advocacy tools for the Codex Alimentarius, its activities and the NCC

1.3 Lead advocacy efforts with ministries relevant to Codex work

1.4 Conduct a national advocacy campaign with the country's authorities and political decision-makers to raise awareness about Codex

1.5 Advocate for the NCC with TFPs involved in food safety in Burkina Faso

1.6 Organize an annual national Codex day focusing on the priority food sector (cereal) and key players (Ministries, Consumers, Industries, NGOs)

2. FUNCTIONING AND STRENGTHENED NATIONAL CODEX STRUCTURES

2.1 Update Joint Order N° 2004-04/MAHRH/MS/MCPEA/MRA establishing, attributions, composition, organization and functioning of the NCC

2.2 Develop and disseminate the Codex procedural manual

2.3 Improve the coordination, functioning and implementation of NCC activities

3. STRENGTHEN THE CAPACITIES OF NCC MEMBERS

3.1 Train NCC members on the FAO/WHO Codex training manual

3.2 Help experts from NCC technical sub-committees to participate in Codex on an international level

3.3 Develop and operationalize a network of national experts for participation in Codex work

3.4 Build operational capacity of NCC experts to participate in Codex work, including joint FAO/WHO expert bodies

3.5 Strengthen the expertise of NCC members with reference to the Codex experience of an exemplary neighboring country (example: Senegal)

4. BUILD CAPACITIES TO USE NATIONAL AND CODEX ALIMENTARIUS STANDARDS AT THE NATIONAL LEVEL

4.1 Identify priority national needs in relation to food sectors and supply chains most relevant to Codex

4.2 Contribute to the transcription and dissemination of Codex standards into national standards for priority sectors

4.3 Information and training workshop for plant health and plant quality inspectors on transcribed standards

4.4 Build private sector capacity in relation to Codex standards

TIMELINE BURKINA FASO

START DATE: SEPTEMBER 2018	TV coverage of Burkina Faso project launch	go to the video
BY END OF DECEMBER 2019	**Activity 1.1:** COMPLETED	go to the photo gallery
	Activity 1.2: to be COMPLETED	
	Activity 1.3: COMPLETED	
	Activity 1.4: to be COMPLETED	
	Activity 1.5: to be COMPLETED	
	Activity 2.1: consultant recruited and decree validated. To be COMPLETED	
	Activity 2.3: Activity started	go to the photo gallery
	Activity 2.2: to be COMPLETED	
	Activity 3.1: to be COMPLETED	
BY END OF DECEMBER 2020	**Activity 3.3:** to be COMPLETED	
	Activity 3.4: to be COMPLETED	
	Activity 3.5: to be COMPLETED	
BY END OF DECEMBER 2020	**Activity 1.6:** to be COMPLETED	
	Activity 2.3: to be COMPLETED	
	Activity 3.2: to be COMPLETED	
	Activity 4.1: to be COMPLETED	
	Activity 4.2: to be COMPLETED	
	Activity 4.3: to be COMPLETED	
	Activity 4.4: to be COMPLETED	

CABO VERDE

PROJECT COST: **US$ 181 935**
CTF FUNDING: **US$ 105 294**

CONTEXT

Cabo Verde has been a Codex member since 1981. However, internal Codex structures have become ineffective over a number of years. The CTF was asked to help with revitalizing the NCC to better serve the populace and the food trade.

Through the **Codex Diagnostic Tool** Cabo Verde identified the following priority weaknesses in their national Codex structures:

- CCP lacks support material including Codex documentation, and clear orientation; technicians overworked; the NCC foundational decree is unclear and ineffective; National Codex Procedural Manual is not fit for purpose;
- Lack of technical expertise and research support to produce national positions; poor government and private sector engagement in national Codex activities; Codex standards poorly understood and rarely applied by member entities and economic operators.

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ACTIVITIES AND OUTPUTS

The following activities and outputs were devised to address the priority weaknesses:

1. IMPROVE THE PERFORMANCE OF THE NCC AND CCP

1.1 Define and organize the CTF project teams

1.2 Project launch

1.3 Revise the legislative decree on the creation of the National Committee and endow the NCC and CCP

1.4 Revise the technical management and operating instruments of the NCC and develop other specific procedures

1.5 Create and establish the main Codex technical subcommittees in the country

1.6 Develop and implement the operating plan following the publication of the revised legislative decree

1.7 Provide the CCP with the necessary resources to perform the role

2. IMPROVED PARTICIPATION OF NCC AND CCP IN CODEX WORK

2.1 Create a network of national experts to support the work of Codex

2.2 Strengthen the technical and organizational capacities of members of the NCC, the CCP; improve expert and media awareness of Codex

2.3 Develop and carry out a data collection activity for a priority sector

2.4 Recruit an international consultant to lead a workshop on how to prepare and defend national positions at Codex committee meetings

2.5 Support the annual participation of 1-2 delegates in 2-3 annual meetings

3. ENGAGE POLICY-MAKERS, PARTNERS, PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS ON THE IMPORTANCE OF CODEX AND ENSURE CODEX ACTIVITIES ARE RECOGNIZED AND SUPPORTED

3.1 Develop advocacy with food sector decision-makers (Agriculture, Fisheries, Health, Trade and Industry) on the importance of Codex for the country

3.2 Develop advocacy with technical and financial partners in order for them to better participate in and support the national Codex program

4. FOOD SECTOR OPERATORS AND CONSUMERS ARE INFORMED AND MADE AWARE OF CODEX AND ACTIVELY PARTICIPATE IN CODEX ACTIVITIES

4.1 Conduct information and awareness meetings on Codex activities with economic and professional operators in the food sector in the north and south regions of the country (2 meetings)

4.2 Organize and carry out general information and awareness-raising activities on Codex and on NCC activities

4.3 Raise awareness about Codex standards and other texts at the national level for better knowledge and application

GUINEA

PROJECT COST: **US$ 165 950**
CTF FUNDING: **US$ 149 946**

CONTEXT

Guinea has been a Codex member since 1978. However, internal Codex structures have become ineffective over a number of years. The CTF was asked to help with better organizing the NCC and helping the country to improve its position on food safety in the domestic, regional and international trade in food.

Through the **Codex Diagnostic Tool** Guinea identified the following priority weaknesses in their national Codex structures:

- CCP lacks human and financial resources to function properly; sub committees are non-operational; insufficient support to other stakeholders regarding NCC activities; NCC lacks written procedures for preparing comments on draft standards and responses to circular letters; the criteria for choosing session participants and the selection and feedback process are not written down; the capacity building activities of the NCC are not implemented regularly;
- There is no national budget line to finance national Codex activities; advocacy for support from policy-makers is insufficient; Codex messages to target groups are not widely shared; the country does not have a national Codex policy document;
- Scientific and technical expertise that could participate in the work of FAO/WHO Expert Committees is not identified in the country; the country does not have enough resources to generate scientific data; the national standards body does not have enough technical and financial resources to execute its action plan.

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ACTIVITIES AND OUTPUTS

The following activities and outputs were devised to address the priority weaknesses:

1. **STRENGTHEN AWARENESS FOR DIFFERENT STAKEHOLDERS TO SUPPORT CODEX WORK AT THE NATIONAL LEVEL**

   1.1 Develop, reproduce and disseminate advocacy tools

   1.2 Conduct advocacy and awareness-raising sessions with various stakeholders to ensure inclusion of Codex work in the national framework

2. **STRENGTHEN THE NCC GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT SYSTEM**

   2.1 Support the operation of the NCC and the subcommittees in technical meetings, by way of consultations and preparation for participation in meetings of priority committees, as well as the designation of delegates to Codex meetings

3. **CAPACITY BUILDING OF NCC STAKEHOLDERS**

   3.1 Train members of the NCC and the Secretariat on the Codex procedural manual and on the FAO/WHO Codex training manual

   3.2 Strengthen the capacities of the NCC scientific group of experts and the laboratories for effective participation in and contribution to the work of the priority committees and to the work of the joint FAO/WHO expert bodies

   3.3 Support participation in the work of the Codex Commission and its subsidiary bodies (participation of 2 delegates in sessions of CAC, CCAFRICA, and CCFFP)

4. **SUPPORT FOR THE PROCESS OF UPGRADING NATIONAL REGULATIONS, IN LINE WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE SPS AND TBT AGREEMENTS.**

   4.1 Contribute to the development and popularization of standards in the artisanal processing of fishery products and local grains

   4.2 Strengthen the capacities of operators in the fishery and local grains sectors in the use of Codex standards

TIMELINE GUINEA

LAUNCH		go to the web link
BY END OF SEPTEMBER 2019	**Activity 1.1:** COMPLETED	go to the web link
	Activity 1.2: to be STARTED	
	Activity 2.1: to be STARTED	
	Activity 3.2: to be STARTED	
	Activity 3.3: to be STARTED	
BY END OF SEPTEMBER 2020	**Activity 1.2:** to be CONTINUED	
	Activity 2.1: to be CONTINUED	
	Activity 3.1: to be COMPLETED	
	Activity 3.2: to be CONTINUED	
	Activity 3.3: to be CONTINUED	
	Activity 4.1: to be STARTED	
BY END OF SEPTEMBER 2021	**Activity 1.2:** to be COMPLETED	
	Activity 2.1: to be CONTINUED	
	Activity 3.2: to be CONTINUED	
	Activity 3.3: to be CONTINUED	
	Activity 4.1: to be CONTINUED	
	Activity 4.2: to be STARTED	

HONDURAS

PROJECT COST: **US$ 221 471**
CTF FUNDING: **US$ 150 000**

CONTEXT

Honduras has been a Codex member since 1988 and has a well-developed food export sector. The NCC needed support to ensure the country is taking advantage of all benefits associated with Codex membership.

Through the **Codex Diagnostic Tool** Honduras identified the following priority weaknesses in their national Codex structures:

- There are structural and developmental limitations to national capacities to strengthen the management of the CCP; lack of national Codex management system; no defined procedures for NCC and no dedicated budget lines for NCC operability;
- No structured awareness programme aimed at decision-makers and other actors involved in the subject; no national-level proposals for projects and programmes that support the management of Codex activities; no experience of developing draft Codex standards;
- No database of scientific experts in the country available to the NCC; lack of ordering, harmonization and systematization of the processes established in the national food safety policy.

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ACTIVITIES AND OUTPUTS

The following activities and outputs were devised to address the priority weaknesses:

1. **CCP CAPACITIES, STRUCTURES AND MANAGEMENT**
   - **1.1** Define and implement manual of procedures for the management of CCP
   - **1.2** Ensure focal point has specialized knowledge on issues related to the work and management of Codex
   - **1.3** Share Codex documents with Committee members and other interested parties

2. **NCC MANAGEMENT SYSTEM TO FACILITATE CONSULTATION, IMPROVE PROCEDURES AND BOOST THE PARTICIPATION OF ALL STAKEHOLDERS IN CODEX WORK**
   - **2.1** Develop a management system for the operation of national Codex subcommittees
   - **2.2** Workshops and/or internships in other countries (Chile or Brazil) to train coordinators and members of prioritized subcommittees
   - **2.3** Ensure prioritized subcommittees function actively under a management system

3. **NCC PROCEDURES, TECHNICAL CAPABILITIES AND ADMINISTRATIVE SYSTEM ABLE TO INFLUENCE DECISION-MAKERS AND ENSURE ACTIVE PARTICIPATION AT NATIONAL LEVEL**
   - **3.1.** Ensure NCC members and other interested parties have relevant skills and knowledge of NCC procedures
   - **3.2.** Develop and implement systematic procedures to manage and follow up Codex work
   - **3.3.** Ensure NCC has a budget plan to manage financial support for active participation in national and international meetings

4. **AWARENESS-RAISING AMONG DECISION-MAKERS AND OTHER RELEVANT SECTORS**
   - **4.1** Develop and implement a communication strategy
   - **4.2** Ensure NCC has management capacity to raise awareness among decision makers and other sectors

5. **DATABASE OF TECHNICAL AND SCIENTIFIC EXPERTS AND BUDGETS FOR ELABORATION OF DRAFT NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL STANDARDS**
   - **5.1** Establish information system and database of national experts
   - **5.2** Develop and implement collaboration agreements with academia, production sectors and industry
   - **5.3** Active participation of national experts in consultation mechanisms (subcommittees)

6. **NATIONAL FOOD SAFETY POLICY**
   - **6.1** Participate in development and implementation of Safe Food Act
   - **6.2** Develop and implement strategic plan for the national food safety policy
   - **6.3** Ensure national food safety regulations are developed and harmonized with Codex

7. **COMMUNICATION AND PROCEDURES ON UPDATING, PREPARING OR ADOPTING STANDARDS**
   - **7.1** Ensure national standards developed and/or updated and harmonized with Codex, according to established standards

TIMELINE HONDURAS

LAUNCH JULY 2018		go to the web link
BY END OF DECEMBER 2018	**Activity 2.1:** Technical agreement with Honduran Standards Authority & subcommittee coordinators confirmed	
	Activity 2.2: Training workshops with Codex Brazil/Chile & an international consultant	go to the web link
	Activity 4.2: Workshops with food chain stakeholders	go to the web link
BY END OF JULY 2019	**Activity 1.1:** Procedural manual developed	
	Activity 1.1: Meetings on NCC regulations	
	Activity 1.2: Coordinated with host country for twinning and organized workshop	
	Activity 1.3: Website & CCP workplan	
	Activity 2.1: Training of Honduran Standards Authority	
	Activity 3.1: Training workshops	
	Activity 3.2: Meetings to establish procedures	
	Activity 5.2: Sign collaboration agreements	
	Activity 6.1: Draft Food Safety Act	
BY END OF AUGUST 2020	**Activity 1.1:** to be COMPLETED	
	Activity 1.2: to be COMPLETED	
	Activity 2.1: to be COMPLETED	
	Activity 3.1: Specialized training for committee members	
	Activity 3.2: to be COMPLETED	
	Activity 3.3: NCC budget prepared	
	Activity 4.1: Develop communication strategy	
	Activity 4.2: Workshops	
	Activity 5.1: to be COMPLETED	
	Activity 5.2: to be COMPLETED	
	Activity 5.3: to be COMPLETED	
	Activity 6.1: to be COMPLETED	
	Activity 6.2: Strategic plan for food safety policy	
	Activity 7.1: Planning	
BY END OF SEPTEMBER 2021	**Activity 1.3:** to be COMPLETED	
	Activity 2.3: to be COMPLETED	
	Activity 3.1: to be COMPLETED	
	Activity 3.3: to be COMPLETED	
	Activity 4.1: to be COMPLETED	
	Activity 4.2: to be COMPLETED	
	Activity 6.2: to be COMPLETED	
	Activity 6.3: to be COMPLETED	
	Activity 7.1: to be COMPLETED	

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BY END 2018

FAST FACTS HONDURAS

3
NATIONAL AGENCIES
now coordinating on food safety activities and coordinating

11
NATIONAL CODEX SUBCOMMITTEES

11
MONTHLY MEETINGS
held to organize work of CCP

3
NATIONAL SUBCOMMITTEES
actively working: CCFICS, CCPR, CCFH

71
PEOPLE TRAINED
at twinning workshop for the training of Codex members and delegates from Honduras and Guatemala

Honduran committees engaged with

14
CODEX ELECTRONIC WORKING GROUPS
on matters of national interest

HONDURAS TAKEAWAYS

"Leadership, inter-institutional articulation and coordination with strategic allies, as well as maintaining Codex issues linked to the national safety system are vital to ensure the sustainability of the project."
– NCC Honduras

MALI

PROJECT COST: **US$ 165 000**
CTF FUNDING: **US$ 150 000**

CONTEXT

Mali has been a Codex member since 2003 and held the office of vice-chair of the CAC from 2014 to 2016. However, Mali faces a number of difficulties regarding food safety at home and in ensuring conformity of food products for export. A number of structural issues can be addressed through support from CTF.

Through the **Codex Diagnostic Tool** Mali identified the following priority weaknesses in their national Codex structures:

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- Website not functional; insufficient financial resources for the proper functioning of the NCC and subcommittees;
- Consultation mechanisms to be clarified; no procedures for use of information received through the consultation processes;
- Low stakeholder engagement on Codex working documents; need to improve information-sharing with all parties;
- No formal processes for preparing delegations for Codex sessions; no post-meeting follow-up procedures for future planning;
- Low level stakeholder awareness and little stakeholder (including policy-makers) training on Codex / food standards issues;
- Inadequate scientific expertise and technical resources to better participate in Codex committees and working groups; difficulties in accessing pools of relevant scientific experts, leading to weak contributions to standards-setting by Mali;
- Food safety not sufficiently prioritized; Codex activities not budgeted; poor application of standards by parties concerned; no national standards for certain products of interest to Mali or standards not conforming to WTO agreements.

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ACTIVITIES AND OUTPUTS

The following activities and outputs were devised to address the priority weaknesses:

1. **NATIONAL CODEX STRUCTURES (CCP AND NCC) WELL ORGANIZED WITH CLEAR PROCEDURES AND RESOURCES TO MANAGE CODEX WORK**

   1.1 Launch of the CTF project in Mali and presentation of activities

   1.2 Develop and implement procedures for the management of Codex work at the national level

2. **IMPROVED KNOWLEDGE AND UNDERSTANDING OF CODEX, AND PARTICIPATION OF THE COUNTRY (NCC, CCP, EXPERTS) IN CODEX WORK STRENGTHENED**

   2.1 Train members of NCC and Codex technical subcommittees

   2.2 Determine the priority Codex work for the country as well as the priority technical subcommittees

   2.3 Conduct data collection activity for a priority sector

   2.4 Codex Mali to benefit from twinning trip with a peer country that has a functioning national Codex committee

3. **HIGH-LEVEL DECISION MAKERS, STAKEHOLDERS AND THE PUBLIC ARE ENGAGED AND AWARE OF THE IMPORTANCE OF CODEX AND ITS ACTIVITIES**

   3.1 Develop advocacy on the importance of Codex for the country with political decision-makers in the food sectors

   3.2 Organize awareness activities on the importance of Codex for economic operators in the food sector and consumers

   3.3 Participate in international Codex meetings

NORTH MACEDONIA

PROJECT COST: **US$ 95 100**
CTF FUNDING: **US$ 95 100**

CONTEXT

North Macedonia has been a Codex member since 1994 but lacks capacities and political engagement that can allow the country to take full advantage of Codex membership and trade in food.

Through the **Codex Diagnostic Tool** North Macedonia identified the following priority weaknesses in their national Codex structures:

- No national-level adoption of/engagement with Codex rules; weak national Codex and CCP structure;
- No Codex-related programmes and activities;
- Lack of practical knowledge on Codex standards-setting procedures;
- Limited number of Codex documents in the Macedonian language.

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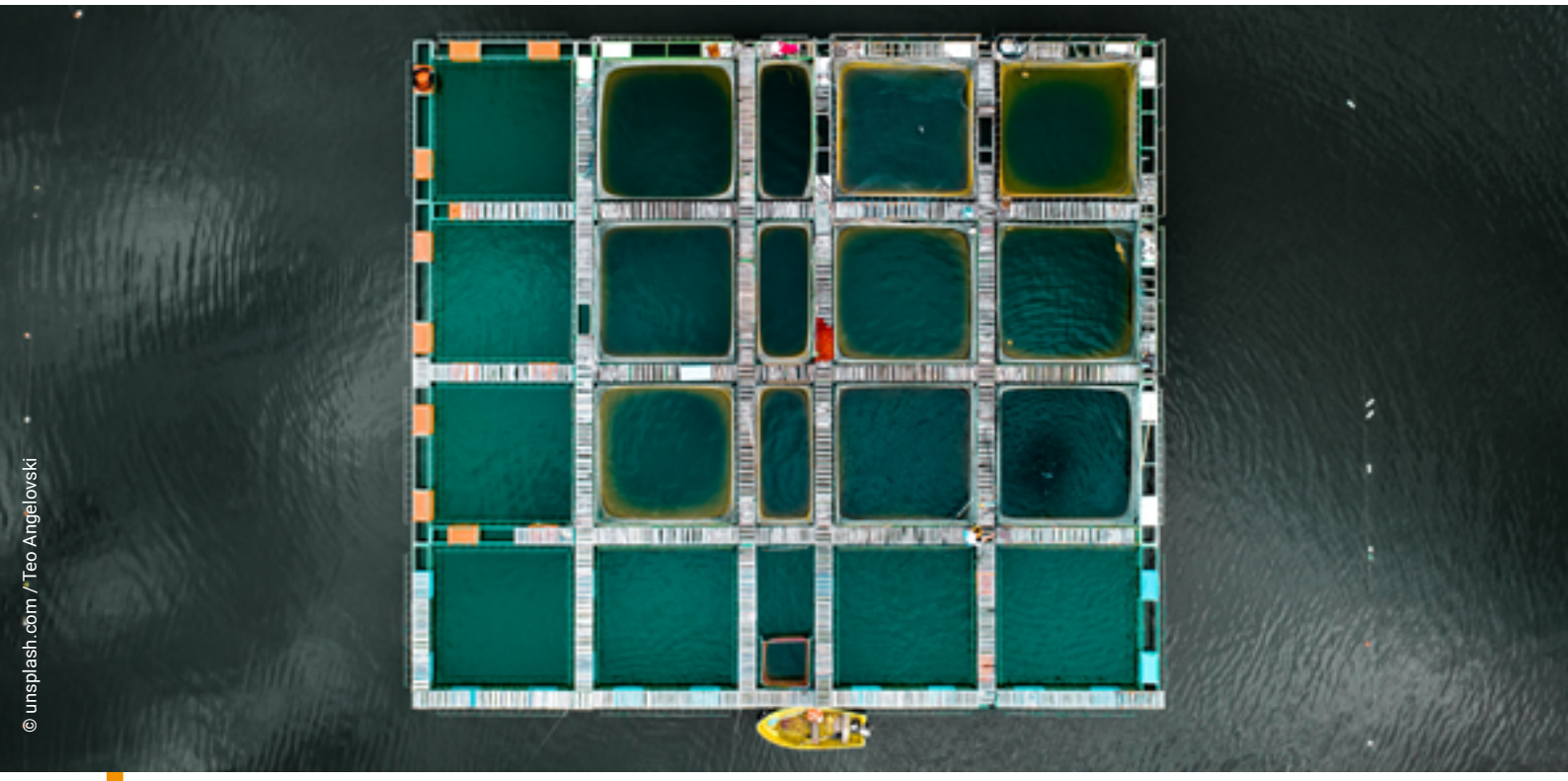

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ACTIVITIES AND OUTPUTS

The following activities and outputs were devised to address the priority weaknesses:

1. **INCREASED CAPACITY OF THE NATIONAL CODEX STRUCTURE OF THE COUNTRY TO BE ENGAGED IN CODEX WORK**

   1.1 Improve management and coordination of Codex work at national level

   1.2 Strengthen and increase capacity of CCP; improve coordination and communication

   1.3 Raise awareness with government officials and relevant stakeholders so they are capable of performing Codex activities and of contributing to the national Codex structure

2. **HIGH-LEVEL POLITICAL COMMITMENT AND SECURED BUDGET FOR FUTURE CODEX-RELATED ACTIVITIES**

   2.1 Establish the country's policy objectives and priorities for NCC work and secure resources required to support the programme of work

3. **COMMON VISION, POLICY AND PRIORITIES FOR CODEX WORK AGREED**

   3.1 Increase awareness and knowledge of Codex among policy, decision-makers and experts

4. **INCREASED ADOPTION AND USE OF NEW STANDARDS PROVIDED BY THE CODEX IN THE REPUBLIC OF NORTH MACEDONIA**

   4.1 Increase skills and knowledge on using Codex texts that might need to be taken in to national legislation regarding obligations raised by international organizations involved in trade issues

RWANDA

PROJECT COST: **US$ 168 276**
CTF FUNDING: **US$ 150 000**

CONTEXT

Rwanda has been a Codex member since 1988 but has yet to fully embrace the opportunities Codex membership brings. CTF support was sought to help strengthen the National Codex Committee and increase the engagement of the country in Codex standardization activities.

Through the **Codex Diagnostic Tool** Rwanda identified the following priority weaknesses in their national Codex structures:

- CCP has limited knowledge on Codex activities and NCC does not function well;
- Guidelines and processes for development and submission of comment are not in place; no procedure for monitoring and analysis of outcomes of Codex meetings;
- Policy- and decision-makers have a low level of understanding on Codex matters; no link between Codex work and other dimensions of the national food control system.

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ACTIVITIES AND OUTPUTS

The following activities and outputs were devised to address the priority weaknesses:

1. **NCC AND CCP ARE LEGALLY RECOGNIZED AND THEIR STRUCTURE AND RESPONSIBILITIES AND FUNCTIONING DEFINED**

   1.1 Launch of the CTF project in Rwanda and presentation of the road map

   1.2 Develop a ministerial order defining the structure and the functioning of the NCC and the CCP

2. **EFFECTIVE PARTICIPATION IN CODEX ACTIVITIES IS ENHANCED**

   2.1 Conduct training workshops for NCC and subcommittee members on Codex Alimentarius

   2.2 Conduct national consultation workshop on priority Codex work

   2.3 Conduct data collection/generation on the priority issues

   2.4 Organize a workshop for Codex committee and subcommittee members on negotiation skills

3. **PUBLIC AWARENESS ABOUT CODEX ALIMENTARIUS WORK AND COMMITMENT OF HIGH LEVEL POLICY-MAKERS INCREASED**

   3.1 Develop/update Codex Rwanda website and promotion material

   3.2 Organize awareness-raising activities (a communication plan will be developed with various stakeholders and will help identify the activities to be implemented)

3. LESSONS LEARNED

As we progress with the approved CTF2 projects and assess applications for new ones, we are learning valuable lessons that will improve the way we can help countries. Lessons learned will also inspire new applicants as they develop their own project applications.

All four Round 1 countries worked hard on innovative and productive activities during 2018, which have provided valuable insights. On an administrative level, we learnt more about how to improve the application and organizational processes.

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ADMINISTRATIVE LESSONS

1. COUNTRIES BENEFIT FROM APPLICATION SUPPORT.

A **one-page guide** has been compiled to help countries produce more robust applications. The guide contains key questions that countries could use for reference when preparing application.

2. SOME ELIGIBLE COUNTRIES HAVE DIFFICULTIES WITH USING THE CODEX DIAGNOSTIC TOOL AND UNDERSTANDING HOW TO DEVELOP A RESULTS-BASED FRAMEWORK AS THE BASIS FOR THE APPLICATION.

A number of countries have stated that the process of using the FAO/WHO Diagnostic Tool for Assessing Status of National Codex Programmes (Codex Diagnostic Tool) is lengthy and difficult without support. While the overall quality of applications improved in Rounds 2 and 3, a number of countries are still experiencing difficulty in understanding how to develop robust project proposals that are based on a results-based framework. To support countries, FAO/WHO and the Codex Trust Fund have:

- Used different fora such as FAO/WHO Regional Coordinating Committees and the Codex Alimentarius Commission to deliver information sessions on using the Codex Diagnostic Tool and how to develop robust applications;
- Given webinars on the same topics and both webinars and information sessions have been recorded and **posted on the CTF website** for viewing by countries at any time;
- Translated slide decks from information sessions into 4 languages and those have been posted on the **CTF website** for use by countries;
- Continued to provide tailored support from FAO/WHO food safety officers and assisted eligible countries when requested;
- Carried out "lessons learned" exercises after each round of applications. This has resulted in a number of gradual changes to parts of the application process, including simplifying the application form.

3. COUNTRIES STRUGGLE TO PREPARE SUMMARY PROJECT DOCUMENTS WITHIN DEADLINES.

The project implementation process is being slowed by the long time it takes successful applicants to produce their Summary Project Documents, which impacts on the administration of the CTF as a whole, the disbursement of funds and delivery schedules for projects. As a result of the lessons learned exercise carried out after Round 2, deadlines were established for the development of summary project documents for Round 3 countries. The success of this approach will be reviewed in 2020.

4. MANY COUNTRIES HAVE EXPERIENCED CHALLENGES RESULTING FROM UNFORESEEABLE DELAYS.

FAO and WHO have taken steps to respond to delays in project implementation that may be the result of a wide range of external factors, including disease outbreaks, bureaucratic delays and political changes. Two key changes in approach are:

- Tighter oversight, which allows for more timely and effective responses to challenges;
- Technical and project management assistance is more readily available to back up the support provided by FAO and WHO project leads.

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LESSONS FROM COUNTRIES

1.
ENSURE PROJECT IMPACT IS SUSTAINABLE BY DESIGNING THE PROJECT WITH DURABLE RESULTS IN MIND.

CTF2 seeks to support projects that will signal a step change in national Codex structures and in the quality of countries' participation in Codex. Durability of project impact is key. CTF guidance documents can be used, advice is available from FAO/WHO food safety officers and from Codex member states who are taking a role in partnering and mentoring with project countries. At the Codex Trust Fund side event held during the 41st CAC, the Netherlands reminded countries to **Just Ask** if they needed any advice.

2.
IT IS IMPORTANT TO CLEARLY IDENTIFY THE PRIORITY WEAKNESSES OF CODEX STRUCTURES IN COUNTRIES AND TO APPLY FOR CTF2 SUPPORT ON THE BASIS OF THAT DIAGNOSIS.

The **Codex Diagnostic Tool** is available to help identify strengths and weaknesses in national Codex structures. Templates in the tool can then be used to help countries to prioritize weaknesses and identify a plan of action to address them. This provides the basis for developing the application to the Codex Trust Fund.

3.
IT IS IMPORTANT TO SECURE POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC SUPPORT FOR CODEX AT A NATIONAL LEVEL.

A lack of political engagement with or awareness of Codex at a political level is a key priority weakness for many countries. In these cases, activities to address this weakness are crucial for sustainable impact of the projects. A number of project countries have developed experience in securing commitment to Codex activities from policy and decision-makers and they are sharing their experiences with other eligible countries as well as the wider Codex community in CTF side events, **videos** and **social media** so that others may benefit from what they have learned.

4.
PEER-TO-PEER LEARNING AND TWINNING ACTIVITIES ARE PARTICULARLY BENEFICIAL.

A number of projects now elaborate activities around 'study trips' to countries with well-developed Codex structures and/or 'twinning trips' to countries similar to their own, that have greater Codex experience. These trips provide learning opportunities – from training in scientific practices to assistance in developing key Codex tools and practices. They are also opportunities to seek advice and establish relationships that can be invaluable in carrying out Codex work at regional and global levels.

5.
EFFECTIVE PARTICIPATION IN CODEX MUST INCLUDE ACTIVE PARTICIPATION IN RELEVANT CODEX COMMITTEES.

Countries that do not have a lot of Codex experience need to learn how to identify priority Codex committees in which it will be important to participate. Active participation in these committees is key and countries may need to learn about the work of the committees, submitting proposals, developing positions and negotiating those positions. All project countries have activities in their projects where physical and electronic participation in Codex committees and working groups is linked to different kinds of capacity-building to ensure that this participation is effective. Training takes place in countries or groups of countries for those who will be participating in priority meetings. Countries also benefit from virtual and physical training courses given by the Codex Secretariat on how to use the Online Commenting System for participation.

6.
UNDERSTANDING, USING AND COLLECTING DATA CAN BE A CHALLENGE.

The scientific basis of Codex standards is the foundation for all Codex standards. Countries need to understand where the science evidence comes from, how to access and use the evidence from the joint FAO/WHO expert committees, and how to generate scientific evidence through data collection on areas that are a priority for the country. It is important, too, to understand how those data can be fed into the Codex process. This is a step-by-step process of building understanding and capacity that some countries may include in their CTF project where appropriate. Activities in this area can help to engage and raise awareness with stakeholders (laboratories, research centres, universities), encourage research on areas of priority to a country, uncover data that can be used for Codex work and help prepare national experts to participate in Codex meetings as part of their national delegations.
This will go a long way in supporting the national Codex committee and Codex scientific bodies in their work.

4. FINANCIAL REPORTING

CTF2 CONTRIBUTIONS 2018

On 1 January 2018 there was a positive balance of USD 865 157. During the period January – December 2018, a total of USD 2 297 869 was received as contributions from nine member countries and the European Union (see Table 1).

CTF2 EXPENDITURE 2018

Expenditure recorded from Codex Trust Fund for the same period from 1 January – 31 December 2018 totalled USD 740 200 including Programme Support Costs (PSC). A breakdown of expenditure into budget categories appears in Table 2 below.

TABLE 1

CONTRIBUTIONS RECEIVED 1 JANUARY - 31 DECEMBER 2018 (USD)	
Canada	81 037
European Union	248 431
Germany	174 848
Ireland	597 372
Japan	144 969
Malaysia	10 000
Netherlands	424 628
New Zealand	16 892
Norway	349 692
United States	250 000
Total	**2 297 869**

TABLE 2

EXPENDITURES 1 JANUARY-31 DECEMBER 2018 (USD)	
Support to countries	223 244
Project Administration	624
Staff Cost	431 177
Programme support cost (PSC)	85 155
Total (including PSC)	**740 200**

2018 was the third year of the new FAO/WHO Codex Trust Fund (CTF2) in which implementation activities were still gaining momentum, in a relatively small number of projects. Delays in Round 1 project implementation and finalization of the critical summary project documents in Round 2 countries contributed to low levels of project expenditure. The low level of support to countries in Table 2 reflects this, but is expected to increase each year as more projects are funded with each successive round. Measures are being taken to address the delays and to simlplify issues that are under CTF control. Staff costs for the CTF Secretariat are fixed at one technical staff and one administrative staff.

APPENDIX

FAO/WHO Codex Trust Fund table of eligible countries as at 1 August 2019

104 countries

KEY

gp Country is part of a group project

L Country leads a group project

COUNTRY	REGION	APPLICATION ROUND	TOTAL FUNDING	CTF2 FUNDING
Afghanistan	Asia			
Angola	Africa			
Armenia	Europe			
Azerbaijan	Europe			
Bangladesh	Asia			
Belize	Latin America & Caribbean			
Benin	Africa	3		
Bhutan	Asia	2(gp)		
Bolivia	Latin America & Caribbean	3		
Botswana	Africa			
Burkina Faso	Africa	2	USD 184 466	USD 149 716
Burundi	Africa	3 (gp)		
Cabo Verde	Africa	2	USD 181 935	USD 105 294
Cambodia	Asia			
Cameroon	Africa			
Central African Republic	Africa			
Chad	Africa			
Comoros	Africa			
Congo	Africa			
Cook Islands	South-West Pacific			
Cote d'Ivoire	Africa	3		
Cuba	Latin America & Caribbean	3		
DPR Korea	Asia			
DR Congo	Africa			
Djibouti	Africa			
Dominica	Latin America & Caribbean			
Dominican Republic	Latin America & Caribbean			
Egypt	Near East			
El Salvador	Latin America & Caribbean			
Equatorial Guinea	Africa			
Eritrea	Africa			

COUNTRY	REGION	APPLICATION ROUND	TOTAL FUNDING	CTF2 FUNDING
Eswatini	Africa			
Ethiopia	Africa			
Fiji	South-West Pacific			
Gambia	Africa	3		
Ghana	Africa	1	USD 156 000	USD 150 000*
Grenada	Latin America & Caribbean			
Guatemala	Latin America & Caribbean			
Guinea	Africa	2	USD 165 950	USD 149 946
Guinea-Bissau	Africa			
Guyana	Latin America & Caribbean			
Haiti	Latin America & Caribbean			
Honduras	Latin America & Caribbean	2	USD 221 471	USD 150 000
India	Asia	2(gp) L	USD 464 120	USD 344 450
Indonesia	Asia			
Iraq	Near East			
Jamaica	Latin America & Caribbean			
Kazakhstan	Europe			
Kenya	Africa	3 (gp)		
Kiribati	South-West Pacific			
Kyrgyzstan	Europe	1	USD 149 986	USD 149 986
Lao PDR	Asia			
Lesotho	Africa			
Liberia	Africa			
Madagascar	Africa	1	USD 164 243	USD 150 011
Malawi	Africa	3		
Maldives	Asia			
Mali	Africa	2	USD 165 000	USD 150 000
Mauritania	Africa			
Mauritius	Africa			
Micronesia (FS of)	South-West Pacific			
Mongolia	Asia			
Morocco	Africa			
Mozambique	Africa			
Myanmar	Asia			
Namibia	Africa			
Nauru	South-West Pacific			
Nepal	Asia	2(gp)		
Nicaragua	Latin America & Caribbean			

COUNTRY	REGION	APPLICATION ROUND	TOTAL FUNDING	CTF2 FUNDING
Niger	Africa			
Nigeria	Africa	3		
North Macedonia	Europe	2	USD 95 100	USD 95 100
Pakistan	Asia			
Papua New Guinea	South-West Pacific			
Paraguay	Latin America & Caribbean			
Philippines	Asia			
Republic of Moldova	Europe			
Rwanda	Africa	2	USD 168 276	USD 150 000
Saint Lucia	Latin America & Caribbean			
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	Latin America & Caribbean			
Samoa	South-West Pacific			
Sao Tome and Principe	Africa			
Senegal	Africa	1	USD 232 350	USD 150 000
Sierra Leone	Africa			
Solomon Islands	South-West Pacific			
Somalia	Africa			
South Africa	Africa			
South Sudan	Africa	3 (gp)		
Sudan	Near East			
Suriname	Latin America & Caribbean			
Syrian Arab Republic	Near East			
Tajikistan	Europe			
Timor-Leste	Asia			
Togo	Africa			
Tonga	South-West Pacific			
Turkmenistan	Europe	3		
Uganda	Africa	3 (gp) L		
United Republic of Tanzania	Africa	3 (gp)		
Uzbekistan	Europe			
Vanuatu	South-West Pacific			
Vietnam	Asia			
Yemen	Near East			
Zambia	Africa			
Zimbabwe	Africa			

** Based on information made available by the CCP, May 2019*

CODEX TRUST FUND YEAR IN REVIEW 2018

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www.who.int/initiatives/codex-trust-fund

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