

PROJECT MANAGEMENT AND FINANCIAL ISSUES

Technical Cooperation Programme (TCP) projects are implemented by national counterpart institutions and directed by National Project Coordinators. FAO headquarters staff regularly provide technical advice and project backstopping. The execution of project activities relies mainly on a team of international consultants from FAO's Partnership Programme (TCDC/TCCT¹⁴) and national consultants, and benefits from the managerial/administrative/logistic support of FAO's country and regional offices.

Monitoring project activities to achieve the set objectives is carried out on a regular basis by the National Project Coordinator and the backstopping technical unit at headquarters. When appropriate, it is also backed by a national project steering committee.

With the exception of the regional project for Asia (Asia-Bionet), and an interregional project focusing on Eastern Europe and Central Asia, biosafety capacity building projects were financed through FAO resources, under the TCP or through other trust funds. The budgets ranged between USD 100 000 and USD 350 000 for national projects, and USD 300 000 and USD 1 300 000 for regional and global projects. Current efforts aim at diversifying the funding portfolio and collaborating more consistently with other UN partner organizations.

¹⁴ Please refer to footnote 8 on page 17



EXPERIENCE GAINED AND THE WAY FORWARD

- Resources made available by FAO are precious but do not always suffice, and are especially very limited when upgrading of GMO detection laboratories is needed. Other funding sources should be approached and partnering with other agencies enhanced.
- FAO's in-house technical capacity has guaranteed smooth project implementation and flexibility.
- Different FAO technical units, including the Nutrition and Consumer Protection Division, the Plant Production and Protection Division, the Research and Extension Division, and the Legal Office, contributed to project implementation, allowing the adoption of an interdisciplinary approach.

