FAO/WHO/Codex Side Event at the 30th Session of the FAO/WHO Regional Coordinating Committee for Europe (CCEURO)

The new FAO/WHO Codex Trust Fund What it is? What it does? How to benefit from it?

Monday, 3 October 2016, 9h00-12h00

Context of the side event

The new FAO/WHO Codex Trust Fund (CTF2) was officially launched on 27 June 2016 at the 39th Session of the Codex Alimentarius Commission. In the first round of applications for support from the new Codex Trust Fund in 2016, demand from eligible countries was very high with 38 applications making it through to the review stage by the Technical Review Group. Many of these applications were strong, but not robust enough to be considered for support by the Codex Trust Fund. Only four countries, including one country from the European region, were successful in this first round as a result of having submitted very strong applications.

Many eligible countries need more information on the scope and focus of CTF2 and additional guidance on how to prepare and submit robust applications. Many other countries are interested in learning more about the new Codex Trust Fund and tools for assessing the status of Codex capacity in countries. Side events are being organized at all FAO/WHO Regional Coordinating Committees in 2016 and 2017 to respond to this interest.

Objectives of the side event

- Provide information on the scope, focus and activities of CTF2
- Assist countries in understanding and using the "Diagnostic Tool for Assessing Status of National Codex Programmes" (the Codex Diagnostic Tool)
- Provide guidance to countries on preparing and submitting robust applications.

Provisional annotated agenda

1) The new FAO/WHO Codex Trust Fund (CTF2)

- Presentation on the scope, focus and activities of CTF2
- Where to find information (hands on exercise to browse the CTF2 website)

2) The "Diagnostic Tool for Assessing Status of National Codex Programmes" (The Codex Diagnostic Tool)

- Presentation on what it is, why it was developed, how to use it, how to use the results
- Presentation by a country in the region on their experience using the tool
- Exchange on challenges in using the tool and how to address these
- Summary of feedback and lessons learned

3) Preparing and submitting robust applications

- Presentation on criteria used to assess applications, elements of robust applications and common weaknesses in applications submitted in the first application round.
- Lessons from countries of the region on their experience in preparing and submitting applications.
- Hands on exercise on using the application forms and guidance material.
- Guidance on group applications.

4) Wrap up session

- Summary of key points from the session
- Exchange on areas that can be addressed in follow up clinics later in the week.
- Evaluation of the side event

Expected outcomes

As a result of the side event, it is expected that countries in the Codex European region will:

- Understand the differences in scope and focus between CTF1 and CTF2;
- Know where to find information and guidance on CTF2;
- Be familiar with the Codex Diagnostic Tool and know how to use it at country level;
- Understand the criteria used to assess applications
- Have increased knowledge on how to prepare and submit robust applications

Organization of the event

The side event will be jointly organized by FAO, WHO and the Codex Secretariat and the training team will consist of FAO and WHO officers from Headquarters and Regional Offices, officers from the Codex Secretariat and representatives of countries in the region which submitted an application to the Codex Trust Fund in 2016. The Codex Trust Fund Secretariat will take the lead in organizing the side event and questions on this event should be sent to the Codex Trust Fund Administrator, Catherine Mulholland at <u>mulhollandc@who.int</u>